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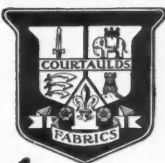
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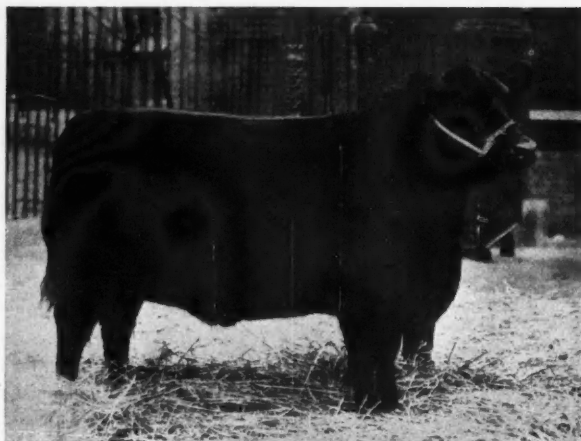
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PROSPECTS of PEDIGREE STOCK

SMITHFIELD CLUB CHAMPION DISQUALIFIED.—At a special meeting of the Council of the Smithfield Club (Incorporated), held at the offices of the Club, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Tuesday, December 19th, the report of the stewards of the Club acting as stewards in connection with the Show held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Monday, December 4th, to Friday, December 8th, and also the report of Professor Sir Frederick Hobday, Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, relative to (a) exhibit No. 149, a black Galloway steer, Mike 5th, the property of Mr. James Craig of Holmston, Ayr; and (b) exhibit No. 153, a dun Galloway steer, Gold Flake, also the property of Mr. James Craig, were received and considered. In the opinion of the Council, both these exhibits were the subject of malpractice, and it was decided to disqualify them both under Rule 23 of the prize schedule, and all awards made to them were cancelled. Rule 23 of the prize schedule reads as follows: "Any exhibit which, in the opinion of the stewards, shall show evidence of malpractice, or the addition or insertion of any extraneous substance in an attempt to

submitted to the annual general meeting. A very interesting letter was read from the Sussex Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa on the subject of "dehorning" Sussex cattle and asking for the views of the home Society. It was felt that a drastic step of this nature requires the fullest consideration from every angle and should be divided into two parts, making the registration and showing eligibility separate items for discussion. In debating this important movement the Council's first question is: what material advantage will be forthcoming from the export side? If "dehorning" will create an increased demand for the breed in South Africa, the ultimate benefit derived would encourage the Council to suggest to breeders to adopt this method. On the other hand, if there was little to gain by altering the appearance of the breed by "dehorning," the Council would not feel disposed to recommend it. As this matter is to be discussed at the annual general meeting of the South African Society in March and they wish to have the views of the home Society, the Council decided that they have no objection to "dehorning" and it would not disqualify an animal from registration in the Herd



THE NEW SUPREME CHAMPION OF THE
SMITHFIELD SHOW
Sir E. Findlay's Aberdeen-Angus heifer Everinda. Placed as reserve
to Gold Flake, the latter's disqualification gives the supreme award
to this beast

obtain a prize by unfair means, shall be reported to the council, with a view to disqualification, and the council shall determine whether the exhibitor and his servant shall be allowed to exhibit at future shows of the Club." In consequence of the above, the championship automatically reverts to Sir Edmund Findlay's Aberdeen-Angus heifer (illustrated here), which was reserve.

SUSSEX HERD BOOK SOCIETY.—Lieutenant-Commander H. Sydney Egerton, D.S.C., R.N. (President), presided at a meeting of the Council of the Sussex Herd Book Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W.1, recently. Prize money, medals and cups were renewed for 1934 as follows, viz.: R.A.S.E. at Ipswich, two silver medals; Bath and West, two silver medals; Royal Counties, £12 and two silver medals; Sussex County, £12 and two silver medals; Kent County, £12 and two silver medals; Tunbridge Wells, £12 and two silver medals; Ashford Fat Stock Show, £5 5s.; Birmingham Fat Stock Show, £20; Haywards Heath Spring Show and Sale, £30. **Cups and Medals Abroad.**—Cup value £5 5s. for the best pure-bred Sussex bull (South African bred); and cup value £5 5s. for the best cow or heifer sired by a registered bull, at Pretoria. Two silver medals for the best bull and best cow or heifer respectively at Bulawayo, Durban, Maritzburg, Salisbury, and Witwatersrand. Mr. Edward Hurlley was unanimously recommended as President of the Society in 1934 and his name will be

Book, but they would not agree to "dehorned" stock appearing in the show-ring. The Council ask for further data on this subject for future consideration. Encouraging reports of the Sussex cattle exhibited at Birmingham were read. Fourteen entries in two classes made a good show and sold to considerable advantage. The tendency in the Midlands, as elsewhere, is towards lean cutters, and the Sussex at Birmingham have certainly been what the butchers require. Another interesting item to the breed's advantage is their crossing success at the recent Smithfield Show, where an Aberdeen-Angus-Sussex cross, under fifteen months, was Reserve Champion.

SHROPSHIRE SHEEP IN FRANCE.

—The flock of Shropshire sheep at Mme A. de Bourbon's, Chateau de Balincourt, par Arnonville (Seine-et-Oise), France, is progressing very well. At Paris, the only show at which they were exhibited, they secured second prize in the ram class and first in the ewe class, also the most coveted prize for the best collection, and in the fat section they gained second and fourth prizes. Some of the Shropshire crosses are a very fine class of sheep. Mme de Bourbon always uses the Shropshire with her French sheep, and with such satisfactory results that she has purchased another 800, making a total of over 1,000. The lambs, which were sold off to the butcher at three months, weighed about 40lb. This is considered very good, as they have not previously been able to sell their lambs before they were five to six months old.

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The author is himself a Wykehamist, and while writing with authority both of history and of architecture, he can speak with intimacy of Wykehamical tradition and custom, and of the whole life of Winchester as it is lived to-day.

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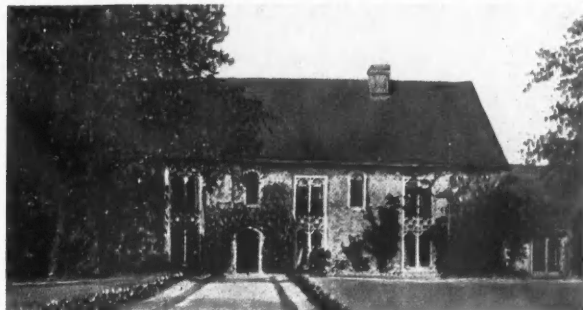
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ON WILTSHIRE DOWNS.

A GEORGIAN HOUSE, modernised, containing three reception, eleven bed (three with h. and c. water), two bathrooms, etc.

Central heating. Electric light. Independent boiler.

STABLING. GARAGE. THREE COTTAGES.

Attractive grounds and parkland of about
23 ACRES.

FOR SALE AT MOST REASONABLE PRICE.

Particulars from (H 7370.)
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

AMIDST LOVELY COUNTRY

ON THE HILLS ABOVE HENLEY, 550FT. UP.
ABOUT SEVEN MILES FROM READING.With its fine train service. Huntercombe Golf Course
four miles.

FOR SALE.

This perfectly appointed reproduction of a QUEEN ANNE HOUSE, approached by long carriage drive and surrounded by lovely gardens, woods and meadowland of

EIGHTEEN ACRES.

Lounge hall, drawing room, dining room, study, thirteen bedrooms, four good bathrooms, servants' hall, etc.; electric light, central heating; large garage with rooms over, two cottages; fine walled kitchen garden, lawns for tennis, etc., beautiful rose garden, orchard, woodland walks.—Recommended by the Agents. (B 32,749.)

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

IN A VERY FAVOURITE PART OF BUCKS

Only a mile from station and river.



FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

DELIGHTFUL AND WELL-PLANNED RESIDENCE in first-rate order: square entrance hall with parquet flooring, drawing room 21ft. by 13ft. 6in., dining room 16ft. 3in. by 13ft. 3in., morning room and cloakroom, six bedrooms, bathroom.

Electric light. Company's water and gas.

UNUSUALLY FINE STABLING.

Garage. Spacious outbuildings.

PRETTY GROUNDS, inexpensive to maintain, full-sized tennis lawn, choice collection of ornamental trees and shrubs, kitchen garden, etc.—Recommended from personal knowledge by (B 45,020.)

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

TWELVE MILES FROM LONDON

500ft. above sea. Gravel soil. Facing a common.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

A LITTLE LUXURY PROPERTY, within 35 minutes of West End, in an unrivalled position.



NEAR SEVERAL GOLF COURSES.

Of no appeal to bargain hunters, but a gem for the connoisseur.

Strongly recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (M 45,271.)

The HOUSE has interest of genuine Tudor times and is exceptionally picturesque; it has old-world gardens with grand old entrance gates.

Lounge 43ft. by 17ft., dining room with Tudor window, and well-fitted offices, four bedrooms and chauffeur's bedroom.

GARAGE.

Electric light and gas, central heating and water from mains.

CONSTABLE'S COUNTRY

In an exceedingly pretty part. On high ground. Sub-soil gravel.

DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE AND ABOUT
70 ACRES.

Long drive approach, lounge hall, four reception rooms, conservatory, cloakroom, ten bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, ample offices, servants' hall.

Electric light.

Company's water and constant hot water supply.

Garage for three cars, stabling for four, two cottages, useful outbuildings; inexpensive grounds well shaded by forest trees, beautiful rose garden, walled kitchen garden, parkland and arable.



PRICE ONLY £4,500.

WOULD BE SOLD WITH LESS LAND.

Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (M 9601.)

Offices: 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1

Telephone No.:
Regent 4304.

OSBORN & MERCER

Telegraphic Address:
"Overbid-Plecy, London."

"ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1

EXCEPTIONAL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 600 OR 1,100 ACRES

IN A BEAUTIFUL UNSPOILED DISTRICT, easily accessible to and only
30 MILES FROM LONDON
lying in a ring fence, standing 300ft. above sea level, and carrying a handsome
Elizabethan Residence of Historical Interest
seated in a beautiful and extensive park, and thoroughly up to date in its
appointments.

EXCELLENT SHOOTING. TROUT FISHING.
The Estate is divided into several farms with ample cottages, and is in good
heart and condition.

TEMPTING PRICE

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,722.)

A FASCINATING COUNTRY HOME

*combining the charm of an old-world exterior with the attractions of an
artistic modern interior.*

Beautiful Country South of Guildford

ONE HOUR FROM LONDON AND ADJOINING A GOLF COURSE



Entrance and inner
halls,
Three reception
rooms,
Seven bedrooms,
Model domestic
offices.

Company's water,
Electric light and
power, telephone.

**LOVELY OLD
GROUNDS,**
orchard and pasture;
in all about

20 ACRES

A UNIQUE PROPERTY FOR A CITY MAN

Recommended by the SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (16,103.)

JUST AVAILABLE

IN THE BEST RESIDENTIAL PART OF SUFFOLK.

**An Exquisite Queen Anne House with
period features**

CONTAINING ABOUT A DOZEN BEDROOMS, HAVING UP-TO-DATE
CONVENIENCES AND STANDING IN A FINELY TIMBERED PARK;
FARMS, COTTAGES AND SMALL HOLDINGS; in all about

400 ACRES

Price and full particulars of the Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER.
(16,110.)

RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF OVER 300 ACRES FOR £10,000

In a favourite part of Hampshire.

400 FEET UP. GRAVEL SOIL. SOUTH ASPECT.



MODERN HOUSE

Four reception,
Thirteen bedrooms.

Model homestead.

Bailiff's house.

Seven cottages.

*The Estate affords for its size excellent shooting, there being
some 50 Acres of thriving woodlands.*

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (12,573.)

FOR OCCUPATION AND INVESTMENT 5 PER CENT. RETURN

WITHIN EASY REACH OF BIRMINGHAM; COMMODIOUS OLD
RESIDENCE IN PARK, THREE FARMS, WELL PLACED WOODLANDS
AND ABOUT

Two Miles of Trout Fishing

1,100 ACRES

Price and full particulars of the Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER,
as above. (15,763.)

DORSET

A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE COAST AND THE COUNTY TOWN.

THIS LOVELY OLD JACOBEBAN HOUSE

with period panelling and other features

Four reception,
Fifteen bedrooms,
Four bathrooms.

Electric light,
Central heating.

Ample stabling and
garage, two lodges,
several cottages,
squash court, etc.



DOWER HOUSE AND THREE FARMS

There is a considerable area of woodlands and a river intersects the land
for one-and-a-half miles. The Estate therefore affords

EXCELLENT SHOOTING AND TROUT FISHING

800 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,839.)

ONE OF THE BEST SPORTING ESTATES IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND

The fine old Country Mansion is delightfully placed in the heart of the South
Downs, 400ft. up with views extending to the sea. There are several farms,
holdings, etc., the whole lying compactly together and covering an area of about

2,500 ACRES

*interspersed with a large area of well-placed woodlands
noted for high birds*

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, from whom
all particulars may be obtained. (15,989.)

NEAR THE HAMPSHIRE COAST

Beautiful secluded position adjoining large estates.

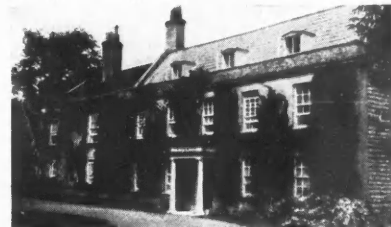
HIGH UP. GRAVEL SOIL. SOUTH ASPECT.

Charming Georgian House

Three reception,
Eight bedrooms,
Two bathrooms.

Electric light,
Central heating,
Good water supply.

Garage for two cars.
Good stabling.



Delightful Gardens of about Two Acres

Price and further particulars from Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M 1685.)

IMPORTANT FREEHOLD COUNTY SEAT

FOR SALE

DORSET

4,000 ACRES

Well-appointed Residence of 20 bedrooms, seated in a 100-acre park, and the
estate is intersected for a considerable distance by a river. There are
numerous farms, holdings, etc.

FIRST-RATE SHOOTING

Full particulars of Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,717.)

SURREY, NEAR DORKING

OLD TUDOR HOUSE

adjoining a common.

Three reception
(two panelled),
Seven to ten bed-
rooms,
Three bathrooms.

Central Heating

and all

main services.

LOVELY OLD GROUNDS WITH CHAIN OF ORNAMENTAL POOLS.

30 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (16,114.)



GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

Telephone No.:
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines)

(ESTABLISHED 1778.)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
45, Parliament St.,
Westminster, S.W.

By order of Executors. **TUNBRIDGE WELLS. GLORIOUS POSITION ON THE SUSSEX HILLS**

500FT. ABOVE SEA.

Sheltered and dominating a wonderful panorama.

FOR SALE, a charmingly appointed COUNTRY HOME, containing:

Thirteen bed and dressing and four bathrooms, billiards and three reception rooms, spacious lounge, servants' hall and admirable offices.

CENTRAL HEATING, ELECTRIC LIGHTING, CO.'S WATER, MODERN DRAINAGE.



LODGE guarding long drive, TWO COTTAGES, HOME FARMHOUSE and model buildings; GARAGE, etc.

THE GROUNDS are NOTEDLY BEAUTIFUL, and the total area nearly

60 ACRES.

Vendors' Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE and SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 2426.)

HAMPSHIRE

ADJOINING THE NEW FOREST. STATION THREE MILES.



A MINIATURE ESTATE IN A RING FENCE.

PART DATING FROM 1780.—Four reception, fifteen bed and dressing, three baths; main water, electric light, central heating, modern drains; garages, stabling, cottage, two lodges.

SMALL FARMERY, SUITABLE FOR PEDIGREE HERD.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS, BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED, together with walled kitchen garden, orchards and capital pastureland; in all

62 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. REDUCED PRICE.

Further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 3223.)

MIDST SURREY COMMONS

45 MINUTES BY CAR AND RAIL WITH UNRIVALLED SERVICE.



FOR SALE and strongly recommended from personal inspection, this delightful HOUSE, in admirable order and affording

Eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, four sitting rooms, maids' room and good offices.
Excellent GARAGE, outhouses and COTTAGE.

THE PLEASURE GARDENS, whilst singularly inexpensive as to maintenance are a charming feature, beautifully timbered, and there is an excellent tennis lawn, the remainder of the

FOUR-AND-A-HALF ACRES

being kitchen garden and paddocks.

SOLE AGENTS, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1.

Telephone:
Gros. 2252
(6 lines).

CONSTABLE & MAUDE

2, MOUNT ST., W.1.
SHREWSBURY,
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.

HERTFORDSHIRE HEIGHTS. ONLY EIGHTEEN MILES FROM LONDON

THIS FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE, IN RURAL SURROUNDINGS AND COMMANDING BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.

LOUNGE HALL,
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,
FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL BED AND
DRESSING ROOMS,
FOUR BATHROOMS.

COMPANY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT,
WATER AND GAS.

CENTRAL HEATING.

MODERN DRAINS.



GARAGES. STABLING.
TWO FLATS.
FINELY TIMBERED GROUNDS.

THIRTEEN ACRES

LOW PRICE FOR
IMMEDIATE SALE.

Sole Agents, CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W. 1.

Telephone:
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1153 (2 lines).

BRACKETT & SONS

London Office:
Whitehall 4634.

27 & 29, HIGH ST., TUNBRIDGE WELLS, and 34, CRAVEN ST., CHARING CROSS, W.C.2.

CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX



A DELIGHTFUL RESIDENCE.

Immediately opposite the famous golf links and commanding beautiful views over Ashdown Forest. Hall, two reception rooms, five bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom and ground floor kitchen offices; garage for four, with chauffeur's accommodation. Main water. Electric light and power. Central heating. Modern drainage. THE GARDENS are a special feature of the property and include sunken rose garden, terraces, rockeries, etc.; in all about

FIVE ACRES. £4,750 FREEHOLD.

Further particulars of BRACKETT & SONS, as above. (Fo. 34, 248.)

EAST SUSSEX (NEAR RYE)



TO BE LET. Unfurnished, for term of years, this BEAUTIFUL OLD BRICK AND TILED HOUSE, south aspect, forming part of the Peisham Estate, situated on sandstone sub-soil, in the midst of beautiful country, with hunting, shooting, cricket and golf near at hand. House restored, with every modern comfort, electric light, central heating and independent hot water supply. Accommodation: Entrance hall, four reception, nine or ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, servants' hall and four or five bedrooms with bathroom. Attractive lodge cottage, garage and stable accommodation, including chauffeur's flat. Gardens, about four acres; additional acreage or Home Farm could probably be arranged. Sporting rights over 890 acres with keeper's cottage available from February 1st next if desired. Agent, C. R. HONNYWILL, P.A.S.I., Benenden, Kent.

Telephone:
Grosvenor 3131

CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON

Telegrams:
"Submit, London."

IN ONE OF THE FINEST POSITIONS ON THE SURREY HILLS

Almost adjoining beautiful commonland.
40 MINUTES' RAIL.

400ft. above sea level. Beautiful views.
One mile station.

**CLEVERLY DESIGNED
REPLICA OF AN OLD TUDOR
HOUSE.**

Beautiful interior.

Many thousands of pounds spent.

LOUNGE HALL suitable for dancing.

THREE OTHER RECEPTION.

Oak panelling, open fireplaces, genuine
period oak staircase.

TWELVE BEDROOMS (h. and c. water).

THREE BATHROOMS.



Co.'s electric light and power, also gas and
water.

Central heating.

Stabling and garages, three cottages and
small farm.

DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS—

Tennis and other lawns.

HARD COURT.

Clipped yew hedges, lily pond, pergola,
rock garden, kitchen gardens, park-like
pastureland, in all nearly

20 ACRES.

REDUCED PRICE OR WOULD
LET.

FIRST-CLASS GOLF.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street,
W. 1.

ADJACENT TO THE

WALTON HEATH GOLF COURSE

600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS FOR 30 MILES.

EXCEEDINGLY CHARMING RESIDENCE, upon which huge sums
have lately been spent in improvements: parquet and polished oak floors,
new bath and w.c.'s; electric light, drainage, heating, etc.; long winding drive with
lodge. The Property occupies almost an island site surrounded by beautiful common-
lands. **FOUR RECEPTION, SIXTEEN BEDROOMS, FIVE BATHROOMS**;
Company's electric light, power, gas and water; central heating, telephone, modern
drainage; perfect condition throughout; garages, stabling, gardener's cottage. The
pleasure grounds are a distinctive feature, terrace, loggia, lawns, flower and rose
gardens, Dutch garden, kitchen garden, woodland and park-like paddocks; in all

NEARLY TWENTY ACRES

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, PRIVATELY IN THE MARKET.

Very highly recommended from personal knowledge.—CURTIS & HENSON,
5, Mount Street, W. 1.

SEVEN MILES FROM SEVENOAKS

Half-a-mile from station and village. AT THE FOOT OF THE HILLS. Close to golf.

ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT AND GABLED HOUSE, retired
situation, wooded surroundings, 400ft. above sea level; long drive approach;
rural views, sand soil; three reception, eight bedrooms, bathroom; Company's water
and gas, electric light mains few yards away, acetylene gas plant, telephone, radiators;
stone-built garage and stabling; pleasure grounds laid out with care and forethought—
productive and well-stocked; tennis lawn, ornamental timber, kitchen garden and
paddock; in all

ABOUT FIVE ACRES

VERY LOW PRICE OR WOULD BE LET. EXCELLENT HUNTING.

PARTICULARLY INTERESTING TO BUSINESS MAN.

Splendid train services to the City.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

CROCKHAM HILL AND SEVENOAKS

Magnificent position, over 400ft. above sea level. Panoramic views for about 40 miles.
Only 20 miles from London by road.

PICTURESQUE OLD HOUSE, built of brick, painted white; mainly of
the Georgian period, but part is older. Four reception, nine bedrooms, two
bathrooms. **ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, COMPANY'S WATER,**
TELEPHONE; excellent repair; garage for two cars, newly built cottage. The
gardens have several pleasing features, terraced lawns, tennis court, rare exotic and
deciduous trees, rock garden, rose garden, etc., walled kitchen garden, paddocks; in all

OVER SIX ACRES

MODERATE PRICE REQUIRED.

Hunting and golf. Highly recommended.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

STOKE POGES GOLF COURSE

35 MINUTES' RAIL.

GRAVEL SOIL.

BEAUTIFUL POSITION.

JUST IN THE MARKET.

**FAMOUS HISTORICAL MANOR HOUSE OF THE TUDOR
PERIOD**; UNIQUE FEATURES, MULLIONED WINDOWS, OLD GABLES,
ETC., RICH PANELLING, OLD FIREPLACES. Six reception, ancient banqueting
hall, billiard room, sixteen bedrooms, four bathrooms; **HUGE SUMS** recently spent;
Co.'s electric light and power, Co.'s water, central heating; stabling, garages, two
cottages; **SUPERB GARDENS NOTED FOR THEIR BEAUTY**, clipped yews,
Old English pleasure, wrought-iron work, spacious lawns, noble trees, tennis courts,
hard court, grassland.

ABOUT 30 ACRES

EXTREMELY MODERATE TERMS.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

400FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL ON GRAVEL SOIL.

WINCHFIELD AND BASINGSTOKE

DELIGHTFUL RED-BRICK PERIOD HOUSE.

ONE HOUR'S EXPRESS RAIL.



Carriage drive: full
seclusion.
South aspect.
Three reception.
Eleven bedrooms.
Two bathrooms.

Co.'s gas.
Co.'s water.
Co.'s electricity
available.
Central heating.
Modern drainage.

Stabling.
Garage and men's
rooms.
Cottage.

OLD-WORLD GARDENS

Matured timber, tennis court, walled fruit and vegetable garden, park-like pasture.

GOOD GOLF NEAR AT HAND: ALSO HUNTING.

Further particulars of CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

AT THE

FOOT OF THE COTSWOLD HILLS

Two hours' rail.

300ft. up.

Unspoilt surroundings.

UNUSUALLY FINE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.

BEAUTIFUL OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE on the site of a much
older house originally associated with an ancient almshouse. THOROUGHLY
MODERNISED without spoiling its old-world character. MANY PERIOD
FEATURES. ANCIENT GATEWAY. **FOUR RECEPTION, FOURTEEN BED-**
ROOMS, THREE BATHROOMS. ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING,
telephone, NEW DRAINAGE, adequate water supply. Garage for four cars.
extensive stabling, MODEL HOME FARM WITH DAIRY for pedigree herd, several
cottages. Delightful gardens and OLD ENGLISH PLEASURE, fine old trees,
lawns, stream flowing through garden with two ponds STOCKED WITH TROUT.
RICH PARK-LIKE PASTURELAND; in all about

300 ACRES

MODERATE PRICE ASKED.

Hunting with famous pack.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

TWO MILES FROM WEST SURREY GOLF COURSE

Beautifully wooded surroundings. 350ft. above sea level. Extensive views.

PARTICULARLY CHARMING RESIDENCE, erected a few years ago
in the style of an old Sussex Farmhouse; long drive with lodge; southern
exposure, light soil. **THREE RECEPTION, EIGHT BEDROOMS, THREE BATH-**
ROOMS. ELECTRIC LIGHT, COMPANY'S WATER, TELEPHONE. Garages
and cottage. **DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS**, mainly in natural state, woodland and
rough grass, tennis lawn, etc.; in all

NEARLY FOUR ACRES

LOW PRICE OR MIGHT LET.

Trout fishing and hunting in the district.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

SEVEN MILES FROM BASINGSTOKE

400FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.

DRY SOIL.

IN A NOTED PARTRIDGE SHOOTING DISTRICT.

MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE
of over 1,000 acres, eminently suitable for bloodstock. Delightful Residence
dating from XVIIIth century, entirely modernised, on two floors only; long drive with
lodge, away from main roads. **FOUR RECEPTION, ELEVEN BEDROOMS, THREE**
BATHROOMS; electric light, central heating, water by gravitation; garages,
stabling, numerous outbuildings; home farm, three other farms, one having Jacobean
Manor House, now Let at good rent, seventeen cottages, model farmbuildings, etc.,
unique gardens, containing beautiful forest trees, topiary work, pleasure and tennis
lawns, ornamental timber, kitchen garden, etc., rich grass and arable lands, intersected
by famous trout stream, with fishing rights for nearly a mile.

FOR SALE AS A WHOLE OR WOULD BE DIVIDED

Hunting and golf.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

BEAUTIFUL UNSPOILT WEST SUSSEX

NEAR PETWORTH AND THE SOUTH DOWNS.

AN INTERESTING PROPERTY OF CHARACTER—A PICTUR-
ESQUE OLD BARN HAS BEEN REMODELLED, OLD MATERIALS
HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED, THE RESULT A PERIOD HOME. The accom-
modation includes entrance hall, oak room and dining room, offices, four bedrooms,
dressing room, two bathrooms. **ABUNDANT WATER, SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE,**
INDEPENDENT BOILER, PROVISION FOR CENTRAL HEATING AND
ELECTRIC LIGHT. Gardens in course of construction, flower garden, vegetable
garden, orchard; tennis court under construction; in all about

TWELVE-AND-A-HALF-ACRES, FREEHOLD;

less land if desired.

First-class golf.—Photos of CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

CIRCA A.D. 1500.

ADJOINING ASHDOWN FOREST

and on very beautiful private Estate.

QUAINT ELIZABETHAN FARMHOUSE.

Sheltered site.
500FT. UP.
Fine views. First-rate
order. Much old oak.
Hall, three reception,
eight beds, two baths,
model offices.

ELECTRICITY.
CENTRAL
HEATING.

Abundant water.
Modern drainage.

GARAGE.
STABLING.
MEN'S ROOMS.



PICTURESQUE OLD OAST HOUSE now unconverted. Attractive gardens, terrace,
herbaceous borders, tennis court, rockery, pond fed by spring, meadowland; in all

ABOUT TEN ACRES

Golf at Royal Ashdown Forest. Hunting.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

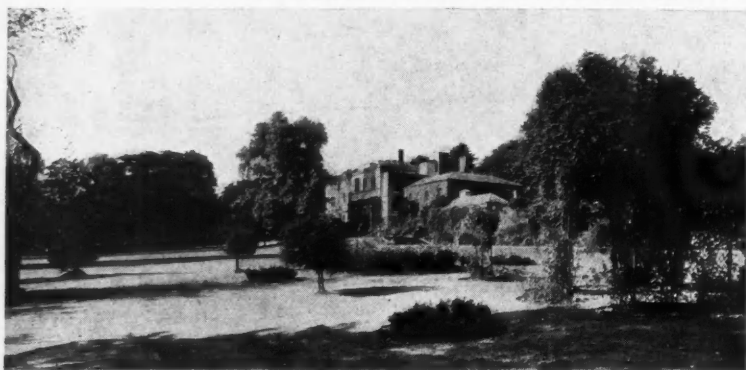
14, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

WILSON & CO.

Telephone:
Grosvenor 1441 (three lines).

CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS AND AUCTIONEERS

A DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD HOUSE IN LOVELY GARDENS



RURAL POSITION. HIGH UP ON GRAVEL SOIL. BEAUTIFUL VIEWS. 23 MILES WEST OF LONDON.

WITHIN EASY REACH OF SEVERAL WELL-KNOWN GOLF COURSES.

SIXTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, FIVE BATHROOMS, FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM, BOUDOIR.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GAS.

PRIVATE CO.'S WATER SUPPLY.

Partial central heating. Independent hot water. Two lodges. Garage. Stabling. Cottage. Bothy.

ALL MODERN REQUIREMENTS. IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

with many magnificent specimen trees, two grass and one hard tennis court, rose and rock gardens, walled-in kitchen gardens, fully stocked, enclosures of rich meadowland.

ABOUT 24 ACRES.

Further land adjoining can probably be rented.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE AT MODERATE PRICE.

Full details and orders to view of the Agents, Messrs. WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W. 1.

IN A LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX. AN HOUR FROM LONDON



BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE, occupying a choice position 500ft. above sea level with delightful views; fifteen or sixteen bedrooms, six bathrooms, oak-panelled lounge and four reception rooms; electric light; central heating; garage and stabling, entrance lodge, four cottages. EXCEPTIONALLY LOVELY GARDENS, with fine trees and flowering shrubs; tennis and other lawns, ornamental water, kitchen garden, etc.; home farm, park-like pasture, woods and forest. About 302 ACRES. FOR SALE OR TO BE LET ON LEASE.

Sole Agents, H. E. FOSTER & CRANFIELD, 6, Poultry, E.C., and WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W. 1.

BETWEEN TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND TENTERDEN A HOUSE OF RARE CHARM. UNIQUE SPECIMEN OF XVTH CENTURY.



350FT. UP.
SOUTH ASPECT.
MASSIVE OAK BEAMS.
OAK PANELLING.
Superb hall, four reception rooms, eight bedrooms, three bathrooms.
MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.
CENTRAL HEATING.
GARAGE.
COTTAGE.

LOVELY OLD-WORLD GARDENS. HARD TENNIS COURT. BATHING LAKE. ABOUT 20 ACRES.

FOR SALE (WITH OR WITHOUT ANTIQUE FURNITURE).

Sole Agents, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W. 1.

HISTORIC XVTH CENTURY MANOR

ONE OF THE MOST PERFECT OLD HOUSES IN THE WEST OF ENGLAND.

Good sporting and residential part, two-and-a-half hours from London by G.W.R. express.

THE ESTATE IS ABOUT 50 ACRES IN EXTENT.

bordered by trout stream, and the gardens are of an old-world character in keeping with the ancient structure. The whole place in wonderful order. Ten bedrooms, five bathrooms, fine gallery hall, three reception rooms.

SUPERB PANELLING AND DECORATIVE FEATURES OF THE PERIOD.

Central heating, electric light.

Garages, stabling, cottage.

FOR SALE AT REDUCED PRICE

Personally inspected by the Owner's Agents, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W. 1.

ESTATE OFFICES,
RUGBY.
18, BENNETT'S HILL,
BIRMINGHAM.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

LONDON, RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM.

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.1.
140, HIGH ST., OXFORD.
AND CHIPPING NORTON.

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ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS and well-timbered parklands of about

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Cottage. Garage and stabling. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W. 1. (L.R. 2348.)

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CHARMING OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE, brick-built, tile-hung and having a tiled roof; southern aspect, extensive views, well away from all roads and approached by a carriage drive. Three sitting rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom, two staircases. ELECTRIC LIGHT.

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Three sitting rooms, seven bedrooms (lavatory basin in all bedrooms), two attics, two bathrooms. Independent hot water supply.

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COTTAGE.

GARAGE AND STABLING.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS.

PRICE, with 23 ACRES, including fishing, £3,750.

The remainder of the Estate is divided into two excellent farms, with homesteads and buildings, of 50 and 127 acres respectively, and yields an income of about £240 per annum.

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Ten bedrooms, dressing room, three
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Garage and chauffeur's flat.

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BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED
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walled kitchen garden with glass, orchard
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OR WOULD BE SOLD WITH FIVE
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IN PARK OF 60 ACRES.

Facing S.W. and situate 300ft. above sea
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lodge.

Lounge hall, billiard and three reception
rooms, fifteen bed and four bathrooms,
good offices.

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CENTRAL HEATING.

MODERN DRAINAGE.

GARAGE. STABLING.
HOME FARM. TWO HOUSES.
BUILDINGS AND SIX COTTAGES.

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PROVIDING MOORLANDS, TO SHOW SUBSTANTIAL BAGS OF GROUSE, AND RIVER FISHING RIGHTS,

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MARLBOROUGH AND PEWSEY,

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standing about 600ft. above sea level on a
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TWO BATH AND THREE RECEPTION
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PRIVATELY IN THE MARKET.

FOR SALE.

UNIQUE XVIIth CENTURY REPLICA HOUSE,

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FINE LAKE OF SEVERAL ACRES.

Fourteen bedrooms.

Five bathrooms.

Four reception rooms.

All modern conveniences.

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GARAGES.

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Excellent grassland; in all over

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Double garage. Two rose gardens, stone-paved terrace and lily pond, clipped yew hedges, tennis court, meadowland.

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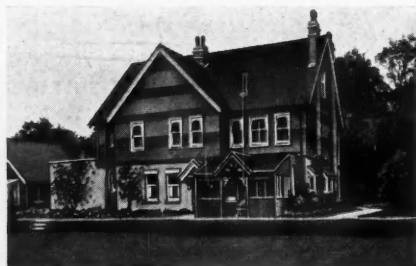
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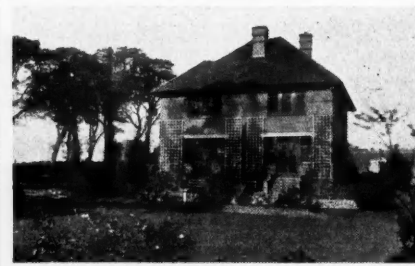
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Approached by drive, with lodge entrance. Lounge hall, four reception, billiard room, eleven bed and dressing, nurseries, four bathrooms; garage two cars, three cottages, home farm, model buildings.

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Oak doors and panelling, maple floors, labour-saving devices, two garages.

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LARGE HALL. THREE RECEPTION. EIGHT BEDROOMS.
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Garage. Chauffeur's room.

CHARMING PLEASURE GARDENS with lawns, herbaceous borders, etc.;
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ABOUT ONE ACRE.

FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICE

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Grand hall with white marble walls, beautifully decorated reception rooms hung with silk, imposing and massive oak staircases.

Decorated ceilings, valuable period mantelpieces, oak floors, saloon capable of seating about 200.

47 bed and dressing rooms, ten bathrooms, eleven reception rooms, ample staff accommodation.

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Many valuable electric fittings, including a large crystal electroler of great beauty, costly garden ornaments, and garden utensils. These items probably worth £1,000.

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ONCE TENANTED BY GEORGE IV. AND FREQUENTLY VISITED BY THACKERAY, CARLYLE, CHARLES KINGSLEY AND OTHER CELEBRITIES.

MAY BE INSPECTED AT ANY TIME UPON PRESENTATION OF CARD TO THE CARETAKER.

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OCCUPYING A QUIET AND SECLUDED POSITION A FEW MILES FROM THE COAST.

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AN EXCEEDINGLY CHOICE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE,

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which gives the Property a rare charm, and is a continued source of interest to visitors to Dorset.

FOURTEEN BEDROOMS,
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LOUNGE HALL,
COMPLETE DOMESTIC OFFICES.



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SEVEN COTTAGES. HOME FARMERY.

RANGE OF GLASSHOUSES.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS with delightful walks, walled kitchen gardens, lawns, flower gardens, etc.; the whole extending to an area of about

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THIS DELIGHTFUL OLD-FASHIONED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, standing high with glorious marine views.

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Garage with chauffeur's cottage, gardener's cottage, and two thatched cottages, small farmery.



THE GROUNDS

ARE FINELY TIMBERED

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LARGE BOAT-HOUSE AND ANCHORAGE FOR A SMALL YACHT.

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IN PERFECT ORDER AND FITTED WITH EVERY MODERN CONVENIENCE.



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Sixteen bed and dressing rooms, five bathrooms, four reception rooms; electric light, central heating, unfailing water supply.

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OF SPLENDID LAND FOR A HERD OF PEDIGREE STOCK.

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First-class golf.

Excellent riding facilities.



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Garage.

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Gardener's cottage.

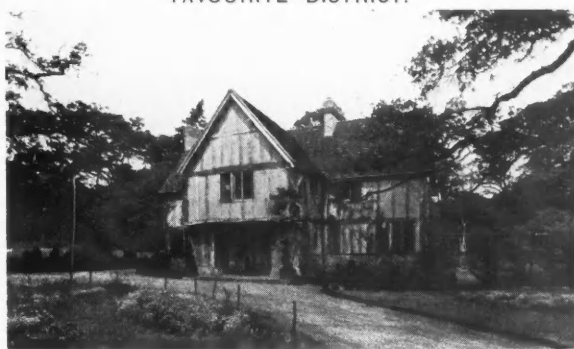
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THREE ACRES.

EXTRA FOUR ACRES RENTED.

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CHARMING REPLICA OF AN OLD TUDOR RESIDENCE.

Half-timbered, leaded casement windows, tiled roof; large hall, two reception rooms; open brick fireplaces, four bedrooms, oak beams, oak staircase, oak doors.

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WITHIN EASY REACH OF SEVERAL GOLF COURSES.

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45 MINUTES' EXPRESS TRAIN
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EXTENSIVE VIEWS OF THE
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Four reception, fourteen bedrooms
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In absolutely first-class order and
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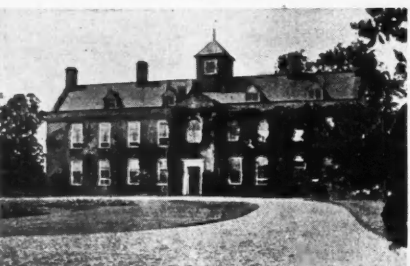
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VOL. LXXIV.—No. 1928

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30th, 1933.

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A NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION

IN the House of Lords debate on Housing—one of the most lucid and intelligent discussions of the problem that have taken place in recent years—every noble speaker with the exception of the two replying on behalf of the Government commended the proposal for a National Housing Corporation to unify all forces against the worst evil of our times. Its sponsors were the Bishops of Winchester and London, supported by the Marquess of Reading, the Earl of Listowel, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Daryngton, Lord Trent, and Lord Dynevor—a group that is compactly representative of most national interests and certainly cannot be charged with holding extreme views in general. The view, variously expressed, was that, while the Government's programme for slum clearance to the extent of 210,000 new houses would, if fully carried out, be far and away the greatest contribution ever made in this country towards the abolition of the slums, it could not be regarded, as the Minister of Health claims, as anywhere near putting an end to slum conditions. Even assuming that 465,000 low rented houses may be built from all sources during that period, a large deduction must be made for new families coming into existence during the same time. On the other hand, the minimum quantity of new houses required to reduce overcrowding to 1½ persons per room is now generally agreed, even by the most conservative, at 1,000,000 houses, let at a maximum rent of 10s. a week.

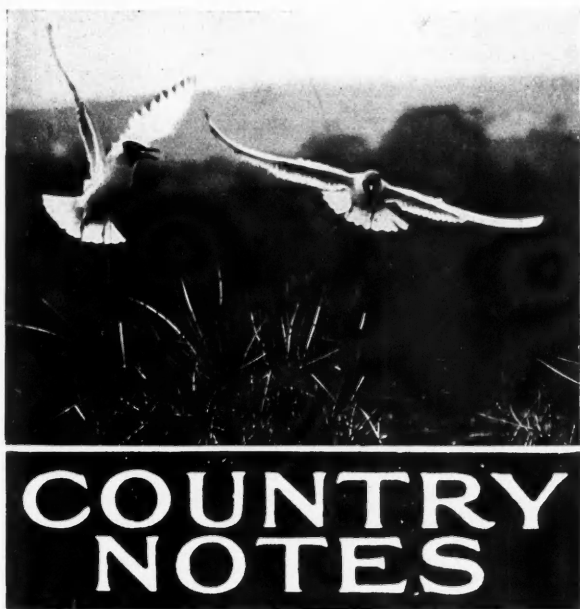
The enormous discrepancy between the official and this well authenticated independent estimate of the nation's housing needs arises, presumably, out of different conceptions of the word "slum." Indeed, one of the most disconcerting things that this year's housing "drive" has revealed is the lack of any definition of what constitutes a slum, or of how many there are of them. It was apparently a feeling that a similar haziness lies behind the ruins of all previous Government housing campaigns, and forms an artistic background to Sir Hilton Young's bright picture of 200,000 houses, that impelled the House of Lords to advocate

with such singular unanimity a public utility corporation on the lines of the Central Electricity Board or the London Passenger Transport Board, to clear up the muddle once and for all. The only hope that Lord Gage held out, on behalf of the Government, for any considerable activity outside the Ministry of Health's five year plan was that the Building Societies, with aggregate funds of £236,000,000, were prepared to build small houses to let at low rentals. They have been "prepared" for months, if not years; but there has been no sign of their beginning.

The more attentively the bewildering ramifications of the housing problem are explored, the more desirable appears some national organisation to unify and straighten them out. What, for instance, is the "building industry," by the employment of which, whether by municipalities or private enterprise, these 200,000, or this 1,000,000, houses are to be built? Really it is only a convenient fiction for a huge group of inextricably entangled building and civil engineering and contracting industries undertaking the production, and assembly or erection where required, of materials for everything from factories to bungalows, together with the multifarious services. Looking more closely, we find that in 1930 there were 56,000 independent building firms alone in Great Britain, of which about 8,000 employ more than ten men each. Confectioners and retail butchers have, perhaps, no such pressing need to co-ordinate their activities as the builder, yet there are even more independent builders in Great Britain than there are butchers' or confectioners' shops. There is, roughly, one building firm to cater for the needs of every 200 British families. It is, therefore, not surprising that bankruptcies are frequent, and that poor credit and high-cost finance are the rule. In spite of the unsatisfied demand for houses, credit for house-building, in fact, is not available at less than 4½ per cent. For small jobs the local builder is probably the most economical unit for business. But for the nation-wide campaign by which alone the slum evil can be overcome within a lifetime, a real mobilisation of the building industries seems alone, judging from past failures, to give hopes of success.

The case for forming a public utility combine of contractors, specifically for the production of cheap but scientifically designed houses, rests on the contention that costs would be lowered through the large-scale purchases, standardisation, constant "load," and centralisation of management that such a specialised amalgamation would be in the position to effect. The objections that are usually made to it are that, through competition, private enterprise is the most economical of possible systems, and that the change over from private to public organisation would cause delay. This was the view expressed by the Moyne Report in its side-glance at the proposal, though the real grounds of the Report's rejection of the scheme were that it fell outside its terms of reference. Nevertheless, the Report actually adopted the basic idea in its recommendations for reconditioning. To the criticism that the building trades unions might take advantage of a long-term campaign of building to exact higher wages, it can be replied that the continuous employment of an increased number of men on work exclusively for the poorer classes is, of all conditions, that least likely to induce wage disputes. As to the financing of a Housing Board or Corporation, Lord Dynevor went so far as to sketch a scheme. The only extent, he said, to which the Government would come in would be in raising a patriotic housing loan of £100,000,000 at 2 or 2½ per cent. free of tax. There would necessarily be a sinking fund of ¼ to ½ per cent., and the Board would find the interest of £2,000,000 a year plus sinking fund. The loan should be spread over a very long period to keep the sinking fund as low as possible. The Exchequer, he argued, would not lose by the interest being tax free, because as fast as houses were built by the Board they would pay Schedule A income tax, while the all-round reduction in unemployment that would result would help to offset any loss. Such, in bare outline, is the proposal, of which a great deal more will undoubtedly be heard in the New Year.

* * * It is particularly requested that no permission to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted, except when direct application is made from the offices of the paper.



THE BEEF INDUSTRY

MR. ELLIOT has certainly lost no time in carrying out his promise to the English Council of Agriculture to do something for the "beef man." The Order prohibiting the import of beef from the Irish Free State and reducing imports of fat cattle for slaughter by 50 per cent. for the first quarter of 1934 came as something of a surprise. Naturally enough, it is viewed with considerable apprehension by Irish farmers, and the retaliatory embargo on the export of store cattle was only to be expected. The friendly arrangement with Canada on the other hand, by which imports of cattle for slaughter are to be stabilised at the 1933 figure, is not likely to cause much heart-burning in the Dominion, though, of course, the figures concerned are much smaller than in the case of Ireland. The beef feeders of this country have been very hard hit indeed during the past year, and a situation has been reached in which many of them, after keeping back their stock for sale owing to the low level of prices, cannot afford to keep their cattle any longer. It had, therefore, become absolutely necessary to do something to prevent these home-produced cattle, when they were thrown upon the market, from depressing prices still further. It is also satisfactory to know that imports of foreign canned beef are henceforward to be regulated and arrangements made to limit supplies next quarter. Imports of chilled beef are again to be reduced. This is all satisfactory as far as it goes, but it will, of course, as we pointed out last week, be impossible to do anything more drastic until the time comes in June for a revision of the Ottawa agreements.

CORRECT PROCEDURE ON MEETING LIONS

"ABOUT sunset, lions are often met with walking along the middle of the road, and are not infrequently known to lie down in front of an approaching car or to walk up to smell it. If no notice is taken of such demonstrations and one remains quite still in the car, they always give way without the slightest trouble." So says Colonel Stevenson-Hamilton, *Skukuza* or Warden of the Kruger National Park, in his annual report, published in the Journal of the Society for the Preservation of Fauna of the Empire. (A station in the Park has just been named "*Skukuza*" in compliment to Colonel Stevenson-Hamilton. Could not a more pithy name be found for this admirable society?) The growing popularity of this, the greatest of South African reserves, is attested by the increase in the number of visitors from 132 in 1927 to 7,264 last year. It does not appear, however, that the numbers in any way incommode the animals. The lions, as intimated in the passage quoted above, have completely accustomed themselves to cars, and the Report suggests that the danger is rather that visitors unaccustomed to wild animals may get too familiar with the apparently "tame" lions. Even leopards, naturally very shy, are beginning to "display the same insouciance as the lions."

A NEW GAME RESERVE

"ROBIN'S Game Reserve" is to be the name of the property, forty square miles in extent, that, by an extraordinarily generous act, Mr. Herbert George Robins has given to the Government of Southern Rhodesia. In British Africa there are some forty reserves, ranging in area from the 8,000 square miles of the Kruger Park to reserves of ten or twenty square miles. But hitherto all have been proclaimed or acquired by Government action, and have been chosen more for the convenience of animals than of men. Tom's Farm, as Mr. Robins's property is called, has the advantage of being on the main line between Bulawayo and Victoria Falls, and has been well known for many years for its abundance of well protected game, more especially antelopes. Mr. Robins's action is the more exemplary since he is not a wealthy man, and could easily have sold or leased the farm for sporting purposes. The only condition he has made is that he shall be left in occupation until his death.

THE LAGNY DISASTER

IT is difficult to conceive more tragic circumstances than those that intensify the horror of the dreadful French railway disaster. Anybody who travelled in an English train on the days immediately preceding Christmas can imagine them only too well. In France, however, intense cold was added. Not since the Gretna Green disaster in December, 1915, when 224 people were killed, has the public been involved in such a holocaust, though the hushed-up and still mysterious disaster to a French troop train on the Modane line during the War produced a yet higher death roll. No pains will be spared to elucidate the mystery of how the Strasbourg express crashed into the Nancy train. But the latter's complete destruction and the former's astonishing escape from serious effects are a telling testimonial to the superiority of steel coaches.

THE TWO YEARS

Reluctantly the Old Year goes;

The New Year comes with eager feet.

With all its pleasures, cares and woes

Reluctantly the Old Year goes;

Bright days the youthful Year now shows

And thus with joy his face we greet.

Reluctantly the Old Year goes,

The New Year comes with eager feet!

LESLIE M. OYLER.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES

THE appointment of Mr. Vincent Harris as architect for the Government offices in Whitehall must have taken by surprise those who thought they saw in the imposition of an age limit a decision to go to one of the younger generation. Mr. Harris was the winner of the open competition in 1914 for the scheme which was abandoned on account of the War, and it would have been manifestly unfair if he had been excluded from the select list because he was a trifle over fifty-five years old. But, quite apart from his special position, he has excellent claims for the appointment now awarded him in a long record of public buildings, of which the Leeds Civic Hall and the Manchester City Library are among the most recent. Mr. Harris is a scholarly exponent of the classic tradition, and, no doubt, he will maintain that tradition now firmly established in Whitehall by existing buildings, though he has stated his opinion that "full rein should be given to modern and contemporary tendencies." Mr. Tait, to whom the Edinburgh building has been awarded, is one of our more advanced architects who, in association with Sir John Burnet, has given us Adelaide House and the new Royal Masonic Hospital, recently illustrated in *COUNTRY LIFE*. But it remains to be seen how the Calton Hill site will bear an uncompromisingly modern building without injury to the little group of Greek monuments and the uncompleted "Parthenon" which was to make the hill a northern Acropolis. It is a sad coincidence that the death of Sir Frank Baines, the greater part of whose life was spent at H.M. Office of Works, should have followed so soon after the appointment of these architects. Baines was first and foremost a great organiser, to which the clockwork precision with which his buildings on Millbank went up are testimony.

SIR HENRY DICKENS

THE death of Sir Henry Fielding Dickens would, in any case, be widely regretted; but there is a peculiar sadness in the fact that he died almost on the eve of Christmas, the season which is always associated with thoughts of his father. He was a man loved and respected in his own profession of the law; he had attained to a distinguished position in it—and a distinction which, as many think, ought to have been higher than it was—by his own efforts and not at all because he was the son of his father. Perhaps the only brief he owed to the fact that he was a Dickens was one in his early days, when there was a witness to be called bearing the magic name of Pickwick. Sir Henry was, in fact, only one and twenty when Charles Dickens died, but he had the satisfaction of giving his father perhaps one of the most heartfelt joys of his life by winning a scholarship at Trinity Hall, an earnest of his future success. He not only revered his father's memory and knew his books intimately, but he followed in his footsteps by giving some of his father's readings, and doing it admirably well. Sir Henry Dickens had all the qualities of kindness and warmheartedness which made up much of his father's gospel to the world. No man could have been more worthy of the name that he bore.

A KENTISH PARISH HISTORY

THE Kent Rural Community Council has lately been impressing on parishes the duty of writing their histories. There could not be a better example than the history of Downe, a Kentish village quite near London but still almost untouched and possessed of a genuine rustic peacefulness and charm. Mr. and Mrs. Howarth, the authors, are newcomers to the village; they came there because Mr. Howarth is the secretary of the British Association, which, through the munificence of Sir Buckston Browne, now possesses Charles Darwin's old home there. If their family had been there for centuries they could not have shown greater devotion, and, indeed, their knowledge puts the oldest inhabitants to shame. Interesting and unexpected people have been connected with the village, such as the Rev. Francis Fawkes, a jovial scholar who wrote a once popular song beginning "Dear Tom, this brown jug"; and Verzellini, a famous glassmaker of the sixteenth century, originally a fugitive from Venice, whose brass may to-day be seen in the church. These have left no descendants in the village, but there are humble families which can produce a long connection to be proud of. For instance, Antony Crane was churchwarden in 1553, and there are Cranes in Downe to-day and in Cudham, next door, and they have been there during all those years. Some of the names of the fields still bear the names of their owners of the thirteenth century, such as "Walking Piece," which commemorates Ralph Walkelyn; he owned it in 1287, and there were Wakelings in Downe in 1750. Downe is an ordinary parish, and no doubt other parishes could produce histories just as entertaining. This little book, which is published by Russell and Co. of Southampton, and costs but eighteenpence, points the way to village historians.

THE "AGE OF MARLBOROUGH" EXHIBITION

ONE result of the popularity of biographies is, apparently, that more appropriate names can now be applied to the phases of historic taste than those of the reigning sovereigns—who had a tiresome way of dying before, or after, the style named after them came to an end. The tactless demise of Queen Elizabeth in the middle of a continuous period of taste has been got over by the coining of the word "Jacobethan" (with its modern form, as applied to bungalows, of "Jerrybethan"). And now the scope of the exhibition to be held at Chesterfield House in February in aid of the Y.W.C.A. is, very suitably, called after Marlborough. His career, much more than his Queen's, was nicely co-terminous with the taste for full-bottomed wigs and solid walnut furniture, stretching as it did from the later years of Charles II nearly till the death of George I. But while the exhibition will represent the arts of the period in general, it promises also to reflect the career of the great Duke himself. The wall paintings of his battles by Laguerre at Marlborough House, unfortunately though

obviously, cannot be included; but a group of tapestries with similar subjects, lent by the Marquess of Blandford, Lord Cobham, Lord Bearsted, and Sir Philip Sassoon, worthily take their place. A "portrait gallery" is to represent his contemporaries, English and Continental, and a great treasure will be one of his rare autograph letters, describing his capture by the French and his escape.

THE L.B.W. RULE AGAIN

THE epilogue to the Westminster Play began this year with a scene of body-line bowling, and we may hope that this pleasant little joke marks the end of the controversy. It sleeps, if it is not dead, and Mr. Francis Ford has chosen that moment of peace to put on his shining armour and rattle his sabre on another cricketing question. He wants, as do a great many other distinguished cricketers, to see the l.b.w. rule tackled, and urges the M.C.C. on to the task. He hates like poison the batsmen who "cover up" and defeat the bowler by the use of their pads, saying that this is as great "an abuse of the spirit of the game" as can possibly be conceived. This is, of course, very far from the first time that "leg play" has been attacked, and the reform suggested that is easiest for the man in the street to understand is that which allows a ball on the off-side to get the batsman out l.b.w., even though it does not pitch in a straight line from the bowler to the striker's wicket. That would, it is said, bring back the glory of the off-break bowler, who at present is largely circumvented by the batsman's "second line of defence."

THE SAILS OF DAWN

The sails of dawn are silver in the sky,
The ship of day is launched in the blue deep,
I turn at the hill's top and wave good-bye,
My eyes still dazed with sleep.

Already shepherds see light shadows pass,
And hear the earliest bird notes, frail and few,
But no one marks upon the meadow grass
My footprints in the dew,

And when the sun, with wake of burning red,
Enters the welcoming harbour of the west,
Where shall I find my peace, in what strange bed,
Called to whose arms, whose breast?

RUTH AINSWORTH.

SPOILING VERSAILLES

HITHERTO Versailles has been spared most of the indignities that overtake fallen greatness in a commercial age. Indeed, the magnificent gift towards the repair of the palace and the maintenance of the subsidiary buildings made recently by Mr. Rockefeller, seemed to assure a secure old age. But an article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* goes far to dispel this illusion by drawing attention to a whole series of misfortunes and mistakes that all lovers of beauty must deplore. Two enormous buildings have recently gone up—one, a flour mill, on land that closes the vista along the Grand Canal; the other a block of flats opposite the Hotel des Reservoirs, the existence of which is also jeopardised. These are instances of the unforeseen damage that may be done to historic views, with which we are only too familiar in England—as, for example, the partial blocking out of St. Paul's, as seen from Charing Cross, by Unilever House—the only preventive for which is a carefully worked out "zoning" plan which it is extremely difficult to impose. But when we read of the mishandling of the famous gardens themselves, it is difficult not to suspect gross carelessness on the part of the public works authorities. M. Escholier instances the wholesale felling of trees in the park, the removal of the patina from the marble sculptures by chemical cleaning till the urns and statues are glaring white, and the replacing in the fountains of mellow faced stone by coarse sandstone. Equally unfortunate is the "restoration" of Marie Antoinette's *hameau* with cement daubed with colour, which converts the picturesque trifle into a tawdry vulgarity. We have enough troubles of this kind of our own to be able to bear with equanimity the maltreatment of one of the "wonders of the world."

FOX HUNTING IN IRELAND



A PANORAMA THAT SHOWS NO CHANGE SINCE PRE-WAR DAYS

A fox-hunting scene in County Cork, emphasising that Ireland is not composed entirely of bright green pastures

PRESUMABLY we were not alone in being brought up to imagine Ireland as a horseman's paradise. "Is it hunting?" our elderly friends used to say. "You ought to have been over in Ireland when we were quartered there; the best of horses and a grand country; all beautiful green grass; big clean banks; jump them anywhere; most hospitable country; charming people; lived for hunting; nothing mattered in Ireland then except a good day's sport." We are sure that they were right—in principle, at any rate. But, on the strength of a mere three weeks' acquaintance, we can outline here a few details in which Ireland, as we saw it this autumn, differed from the Ireland that we had pictured ever since we began to hunt the fox.

Those three weeks contained glimpses of the Meath and the Limerick countries. But County Cork was the *pièce de résistance*, and most of the available time was spent with the United, though excursions to the Duhallow and (through the Muskerry country) to the Carbery, showed off the varied resources of that most sporting corner of Ireland. The first impression of this miniature tour was that the greenness had been exaggerated. Perhaps allowance should be made for an October outlook after a dry summer. It must also be admitted that the grass in Meath certainly was green. But no one could have claimed that the pastures elsewhere looked richer than in the English vales. The county of Devon would have provided as much green and about the same proportion of brown and yellow in heather and rough grazing. Nor, indeed, could the country be described as "all grass." There was not a great deal of plough—not enough to slow up the hounds—but it was necessary, in theory at any rate, to keep a sharp look-out for seeds (or "new grass," to use the

local phrase) and to ride the headland, if caught on them unawares. Nor were the banks all clean. Some of them were just blind—with grass and briars that would presumably die later on. Others are permanently overgrown with gorse or underwood, like the banks in Devon and Somerset. Wire is very little in evidence, but is none the less an important factor. To be given a mount in a strange country and to find in front of the saddle a case about the size and shape of a revolver holster is more than a little alarming. Even when the case is found to contain merely a gigantic pair of wire-shears, it still looks unduly severe. But it is a fact that most Irish fox hunters seem to carry cutters and to use them without the slightest compunction. Wire is certainly much less of an obstruction there than in the average English provincial country, but the attitude towards it is different. In England it is recognised and respected—in Ireland, quite the contrary.

To continue the indictment, our elderly friends forgot to emphasise that there are "demesnes" (*anglice* parks) to provide those "rhododendron days" of which we see quite enough over here. There are also steep, wooded river valleys to which the foxes cling with annoying persistency. Almost every natural covert has a great variety of holes, so as to make effective earth stopping an impossibility. The artificial gorse coverts, it must

at once be added, are perfect of their type, and show the results of a tremendous amount of care and hard work all the year round.

The best of the horses are as good as anyone could want, but they are not all, as we in our youthful ignorance had imagined, bright chestnuts, with long manes and longer pedigrees, full of the best jumping blood and capable of winning any minor race in England. Actually there are commoners there



Poole

AN IRISH GATEWAY
Difficult to open and even more difficult to shut

Waterford



THE MEATH FOXHOUNDS AT DUNSANY CASTLE

In the centre is Will Fitzsimons, one of the most celebrated of Irish professional huntsmen

as here, and they go in all shapes and sizes, but they all go—which is more than can be said for English hunters as a whole.

That exhausts our crabbed criticism. The elderly friends were not wrong. They merely brought away with them vivid impressions of the very best features of Irish fox hunting, and we ourselves have done the same. In course of time we shall have forgotten the banks that were too blind to jump, and the foxes that would not leave the glens. The Ireland that we in our turn shall retail is an unspoiled agricultural land where, if you cannot go into every field with the hounds, you will be prevented by what man has *not* done—by his failure to trim fences, drain bogs, or put gates into gateways—rather than by what he *has* done elsewhere—his wire, padlocks, poultry runs, and tarred roads. We shall remember to tell how the Irish fox hunters have built beautiful gorse coverts right in the middle of their best tracts of open country, so that whenever a fox is found there he is obliged to show sport. The whole field is out to ride, and ride it does—over everything in sight. There is no road brigade, and banks only become more slippery and dangerous for those who wait in a queue. Even if the hounds run slowly, there are virtually no gates to open, so that the veriest glutton is satiated with jumping by the end of the day. One of the pleasantest surprises is to find that none of the by-roads and very few of the so-called main roads are tarred, for it is years since we jumped into and out of a main road in England. Over there the roads, with one or two exceptions, are no more dangerous than our own cart tracks, with which, to be candid, they have other features in common, a complete absence of sign-posts being one of the most remarkable.

It is, in fact, still a natural fox hunting country. As for its inhabitants, it is often claimed (*vide* the elderly friends) that they also are by nature fox hunters. Well, it is obvious, from the

small size of the fields, even with the most celebrated packs, that they do not all of them hunt. But, on the whole, there usually seems to be some good reason why they do not. Sometimes it is that there are no hounds within easy reach, for Ireland is not nearly so closely hunted as England. Often it is that they cannot afford to do so. But in Ireland it certainly seems necessary to offer excuses why one should not hunt rather than (as sometimes in England) excuses why one should.

It was rather surprising (we are becoming critical again now) not to see more farmers out hunting, for there seemed to be plenty of horses on the roads and in the fields, such as might be pressed into service. Perhaps we had not fully appreciated that, in the south-west at any rate, the farms are very small and the standard

of living in their houses much lower than on farms of corresponding size in England. It seems, too, that even Ireland is not quite free from those farmers who find it better business not to hunt, but to send in claims for damage whenever possible—claims which, in any part lacking natural strongholds for foxes, must be paid without delay. On the whole, the hounds receive a wonderful welcome wherever they go, and it is very encouraging to see labourers and farm lads nicking in on the most blatant cart-horses, or occasionally on donkeys. We even saw one brave youth whose donkey was controlled, not by a bridle, but by an old driving bit kept in place with pieces of string. But there did not seem to be as many foot people out as we should have expected to see in England. It would certainly be an exaggeration to say that all Irishmen are, or even would like to be, active fox hunters.

It also proves to be an illusion that in Ireland one can be a Master of Hounds with little or no expense. Certainly there are innumerable packs (mostly trencher-fed harriers, hunting fox) which cost practically nothing for upkeep. But no Englishman



Poole

MAJOR DERMOT McCALMONT, M.C.
Master of the Kilkenny Foxhounds since 1921

Dublin



WITH THE MEATH FOXHOUNDS, NEAR DUNSHAUGHLIN
The Master Mrs. Connell (on the right), is accompanied by Mrs. Evans, Lord Dunsany and Colonel Brooke



THE HON. LADY McCALMONT
(Master of the Kildare), talking to Mrs. Peter Burrell

is likely to show sport with a scratch pack in a rough piece of country, of which the coverts would doubtless be regularly disturbed by kindred "pirate" packs. His only chance of success would be to take over a well established pack, with a good country, a competent staff, and enough prestige to keep him afloat until he could swim for himself. There are not many packs of that sort in Ireland at all. Most of them have large countries to hunt, and it would certainly cost the Master a considerable sum to hunt any one of them. It is true that hunting is cheap there, but largely because the Master does the paying. It is, indeed, lucky for Ireland that she still retains the services of such generous Masters as, to mention only two, Mrs. Connell (the Meath) and Major A. H. Watt (the United). Without such devotion as theirs, it really seems that the established packs would quickly sink to the level of the "Sunday harriers."

Hunting, however, actually is cheap there from the subscriber's point of view. Thanks to the tariff war with England, everything is cheap that is not imported. In October the farmers were apparently being paid by the creameries threepence-halfpenny a gallon for their milk, and fat cattle were making from about twenty-two shillings down to as little as ten shillings a live hundred-weight—fantastically low prices judged by English standards! Hay and oats are fairly cheap, and horses are much cheaper

than they were three years ago. Even so, they are not being given away, and the uncertainty as to the figure at which the Customs officials will value any particular horse is doing more to throttle the horse trade with England than the duties themselves. The farmers are said to be still living on their reserves, and even when they are faced with bankruptcy it is difficult to see how either country can make the first move to abolish the tariffs.

However, we must not stray into the field of politics. Nor must we finish on an ungracious note. We went to Ireland for a holiday, and by no possible means could more or better value in fox hunting have been compressed into three weeks. One feature which has never been exaggerated is the hospitality of Irish fox hunters. Their kindness at home is only exceeded by their anxiety to show sport out hunting. English packs, we fear, take rather a pride in not having to cater for strangers. Irish packs are not in the least dependent upon strangers, but they really do exert themselves to entertain any that arrive. Their supporters hunt only to enjoy themselves, and the general enthusiasm is most infectious. Whatever youthful illusions have been shattered, we are not in the least surprised that that enthusiasm for the Chase has survived Ireland's innumerable troubles. We are equally confident that it will survive any that the future may hold in store.

M. F.



Pooler

Dublin

HOW TO NEGOTIATE AN IRISH BANK
Though Irish foxhunters are not often seen in such a modest queue

A LOVELY COMPANY

Time Remembered, by Frances Horner. (Heinemann, 15s.)

THE beautiful manor house of Mells could never, as those privileged to know it will agree, sponsor anything at all commonplace. It has been the home of choice spirits, and a certain exquisiteness is inseparable from any recollection of it. Lady Horner's book is enthralling and poignant, as befits her lovely home. But she speaks little of herself, save in relation to the remarkable people who have been her friends, though to have known intimately the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, to have been made love to "in a queer sort of way" by Ruskin, and to have been the intimate of such different kinds of men as Burne-Jones, Asquith, and her husband, the late Sir John Horner, is proof of the writer's outstanding personality.

The succession of celebrities who pass intimately through her pages will *épater les bourgeois*, and the letters of Burne-Jones are an enchanting addition to our knowledge of that wonderful personality, who is too generally misconceived as resembling his stained glass windows, instead of, as Lady Horner reveals him, as "without exception the best talker I have ever known."

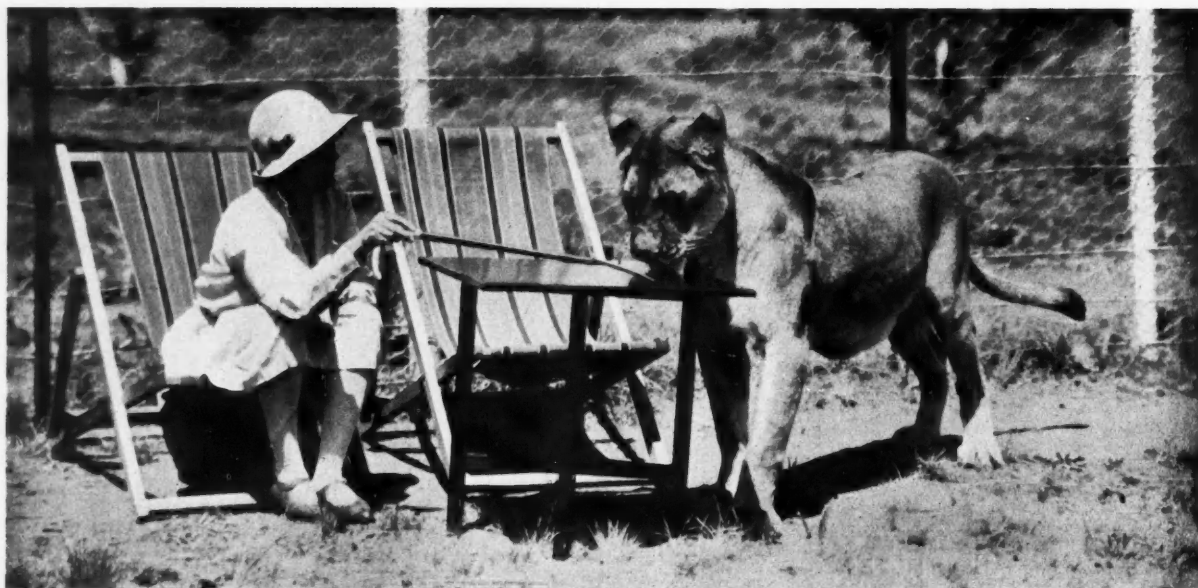
But the true significance of *Time Remembered* lies less, I think, in its wealth of side lights than in its typifying of a generation. Through Lady Horner's long memory we see the brilliant rise and tragic end of a noble way of life. Loosely it may be called Liberal aristocracy. But, call it what we may, the idealistic, intellectual, democratic type that it produced, and of which the family at Mells was such a splendid example, is now as much a

Lions Wild and Friendly, by E. F. V. Wells, F.R.G.S., F.Z.S. (Cassell, 8s. 6d.)

A *Game-Book for Burma*, by E. H. Peacock. (Wetherby, 12s. 6d.)

MR. WELLS quotes somewhere in this book the saying of a circus proprietor that "there would be no earthly use in trying to run a circus without lions. The public would not even come into the doors," and this only expresses the fascination that the lion exercises on the imagination of most people. This charming book, which contains numbers of lovely photographs of lions in the most domestic attitudes, and of lion cubs in an enchanting state of fluffy beauty, could scarcely fail to attract any reader, and the reader who already has a "lion complex" will positively revel in it. It is full of good stories of the many lions with which Mr. Wells and his wife have lived on the most familiar terms, and the most interesting facts about their tastes and habits, such as their passion for the human hat, which they delight in tearing to pieces. The individual idiosyncrasies of lions are extraordinarily well marked. Mr. Wells tells, for instance, of one lion, Max, who had a particular dislike that he has never known in any other lion: "Music was anathema to him, and as he grew older, his aversion to it became more intense. This peculiarity was first noticed when our children made a habit of bringing a gramophone on to the lawn where we were all having our morning tea. The music had the most extraordinary effect. Max would rush about, throw up his head and literally howl like a dog, making the most disturbing noise. This action was strange, as I have never heard a lion make a similar noise either before or since, and it must be borne in mind that lions are cats."

A book of similar interest but very different in its aim and scope is *A Game-Book for Burma*. As the author points out in his introduction, Burma offers fine opportunities for well regulated sport, and some of the best game animals in the world, but sportsmen rarely go there to



THE LION FRIENDLY

From "*Lions Wild and Friendly*"

thing of the past as, twenty years ago, it was, perhaps, the most hopeful element in the nation. The toll upon its youth was one of the most tragic disasters of the whole War, for its Grenfells, Shaw Stewarts, Listers and Horners would have been the nation's leaders to-day.

Lady Horner's story is, in effect, how this brilliant generation was bred. From her own upbringing in a strictly Presbyterian Scotch family that yet had a passionate love of Italian art, we pass to scenes of Trollope's England, rich in comedy, but also in a tender, pastoral beauty.

We [Nanny Day, Lady Horner and the children] used to take luncheon with us and go out in the pony trap for long days, and Cicely [the baby] had hers whenever it was due, and I nursed her, sitting on a heap of stones by the roadside.

The scene calls up a "Flight into Egypt" by some gracious old Primitive. But, Lady Horner adds, "I think that kind of life gave the children health and strength, which they have been grateful for all their after lives."

So, through chapters that breathe all the peace and beauty of pre-War England, we mark the children's growth, the mellowing of the life at Mells, the rise to power of so many of the Mells circle. Then the whole lovely scene is shattered. The lives cast in a heroic (and, indeed, Pre-Raphaelite) mould are lost, the Liberal ideal is discredited. Lady Horner speaks little of it. But the disjointedness and reticence of the latter part of the book are more eloquent than words.

Time Remembered is an exquisite picture of the roots and flowering of Edwardian England, and so sad in its end that the reader will trust that years and the quiet of the Somersetshire countryside have brought the consolation implied in the title.

C. H.

take advantage of the opportunities available. It will certainly not be Mr. Peacock's fault if many sportsmen do not turn their attention to the Province, and certainly no better text book than his could well be devised.

Gentlemen of the Press, by W. Hutcheon. (Murray, 5s.)

THERE is a story of a Scotsman who was found early one morning walking through the streets of Aberdeen carrying his trousers over his arm. On being, somewhat naturally, reproved by authority in the shape of a constable, he explained that he was looking for the Aberdeen Free Press. Mr. Hutcheon, who hails from those parts, has looked a good deal farther afield, and for more than forty years has served on three of the most important and distinguished newspapers in London and the English provinces, first on the "Bradford Observer" (now the "Yorkshire Observer"), then on the "Manchester Guardian," and finally for many years on the "Morning Post." He has had a full and most interesting life, has worked with most interesting people, and writes about his experiences not only of newspaper work but of contemporary men and affairs in a most lucid and interesting way. The "Bradford Observer" in Mr. Hutcheon's time belonged to the Byles family and had great importance in the generally Liberal north of England. So, of course, had the "Manchester Guardian" in the middle days of C. P. Scott, and Mr. Hutcheon has much to tell us of Scott himself and of such colleagues as C. E. Montague and Spenser Wilkinson. Professor Wilkinson (as he afterwards became) migrated, like Mr. Hutcheon, from Manchester to the "Morning Post," and after a period of work as dramatic critic made his great reputation as a military commentator during the South African War. Mr. Hutcheon, with his Liberal training, was, naturally, in considerable sympathy with the enlightened policy adopted by Sir Fabian Ware during his editorship of the "Morning Post" some twenty-five years ago, and has much to say about those days of brilliant and strangely unorthodox journalism. The story of great newspapers and their conduct has a great fascination for the general reader as well as those connected with the Press, provided it is simply and straightforwardly told. Mr. Hutcheon has set down his experiences clearly and without technicality, and his book will be read

by very many people with great interest. He has some thrilling as well as amusing stories, including a description of the night in 1915 when the "Morning Post" building in the Strand was bombed by Zeppelins.

Great American Short Stories. O. Henry Memorial Committee. (Long, 10s. 6d.)

FOURTEEN years of American short-story writing are represented in this book: the years 1919 to 1932. Every story in the book won a prize under the O. Henry Memorial during its particular year, and the stories are printed in chronological order. "Great" is a word to be used sparingly; but open the book where you will, and real distinction meets you, whether it is the distinction of grimness, as in Ernest Hemingway's "The Killers" and Edwin Granberry's "Trip to Czardis," or of irony, as in Frances Newman's "Rachel and Her

Children," or of psychology, as in Chester T. Crowell's "Margaret Blake" and Sidney Howard's "Homesick Ladies." Perhaps for its presentment of the pathos of youth Mary Hastings Bradley's "Five-Minute Girl" stands out above the rest; but the pleasure of a collection like this is in knowing that, where all is good, one will find eventually the story that, for oneself, is best. And there are forty-two stories among which to choose. O. Henry is well served, fittingly honoured by the publication of this book. V. H. F.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A HOLIDAY LIBRARY LIST

SAMUEL PEPYS, by Arthur Bryant (Cam. Univ. Press, 10s. 6d.); EDWARD WILSON IN THE ANTARCTIC, by George Seaver (Murray, 10s. 6d.); DIVERSIONS AND PASTIMES, by R. M. Abraham (Constable, 5s.); FICTION—THE AUGS, by G. B. Stern (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.); ANGEL'S ADVENTURE, by George Birmingham (Methuen, 7s. 6d.); VERSE—COLLECTED POEMS, by V. Sackville-West (Hogarth Press, 10s. 6d.).

THE END OF THE GOLFING YEAR

By BERNARD DARWIN

A LITTLE while ago I chanced, on a certain day of festal reunion, to stand near a bishop, and had the delight of hearing him say to an old acquaintance: "Dear me—how the years do run round!" It was a perfect remark and delivered in a manner that was a perfect model of episcopal geniality. Perhaps his lordship is saying it again at this moment, because here we are at the end of another year.

A proper motto for golfers on this occasion is, in Mrs. Malaprop's words: "Let your retrospection be all to the future." Golfers always think they are going to get better next year. I had almost written "we golfers," but I cannot quite do it. Indeed, I think golfers on New Year's Eve may be divided into three classes according to their hopes. The members of the first and most enviable class hope to *get* better—that is, to make some great discovery and with it a definite improvement that shall raise them into a higher position in golfing society. Those in the second only hope to *play* better; that is to say, they recognise that the time for real improvement is past, but they trust that a lucky spell of putting may make them win more half-crowns. The third—well, the best that they can hope for is that their downward progress may be gentle and that they may have some good foursomes in the coming year. That is my class, and yet at the moment I can hardly force myself to acknowledge it, because, if all is well, I shall be spending New Year's Eve in a house where I used to spend it at a time when I actually was getting better. In those cheerful days we used invariably to sit up to see the New Year in, and our caddies used to come and shout at us through the keyhole: "Happy New Year, Mr. So-and-so," going through the list of all those in the house till they were dismissed with sixpences. Nowadays the drive gate is locked betimes lest these young well-wishers should disturb senile slumbers. Still, something of the old hopeful feeling hangs about the house not wholly to be exorcised by the flight of time, and the first tee shot on New Year's Day is made with a very stiff back, perhaps, but in an ever hopeful spirit.

Enough, however, of this futile and selfish dreaming, and let us look back on the golfing year in a more wide-minded way. It has clearly been a great year for "old gentlemen," since Mr. Michael Scott won the Amateur Championship and Mr. H. E. Taylor won the Autumn Medal at St. Andrews with a 73, a great round, all the greater because he began by hanging a millstone of a six round his neck at the first hole. Mr. Scott's win at Hoylake seems, if possible, still finer now than it did at the time, because, since he beat Mr. Dunlap in the semi-final, that young gentleman has become Amateur Champion of the United States. So now we realise more fully than ever what Mr. Scott had to beat and that he was "the saviour of his country when the guns begin to shoot."

These two victories were very cheering for the elder golfers, but I suppose the most cheering thing for the golfing community at large was the victory of our professionals in the Ryder Cup match. No one who was at Southport is ever likely to forget that occasion, whether its more humorous Derby Day aspects (unless one saw the humour of them they would have been rather revolting) or the desperate and cumulative excitement of the play. And our men did quit themselves like men. They had really set out with a fierce resolve to win; they had subdued the American terror which had so often beset them in the Open Championship, and, hard as our visitors fought and near as they came to success, it was the British side who looked like winners from the start. If only they could have done it again in the Championship at St. Andrews—but they did not; two of our invaders, Shute and Craig Wood, had to play off a tie. There was no terror, no inferiority complex, but this time, in that long drawn out test of four scoring rounds, it must be acknowledged that it was always the Americans who looked like winners. It is true that Easterbrook had the chance of a lifetime—*surgit amari aliquid* is the remembrance—but I cannot delete that last sentence, however patriotically I may want to.

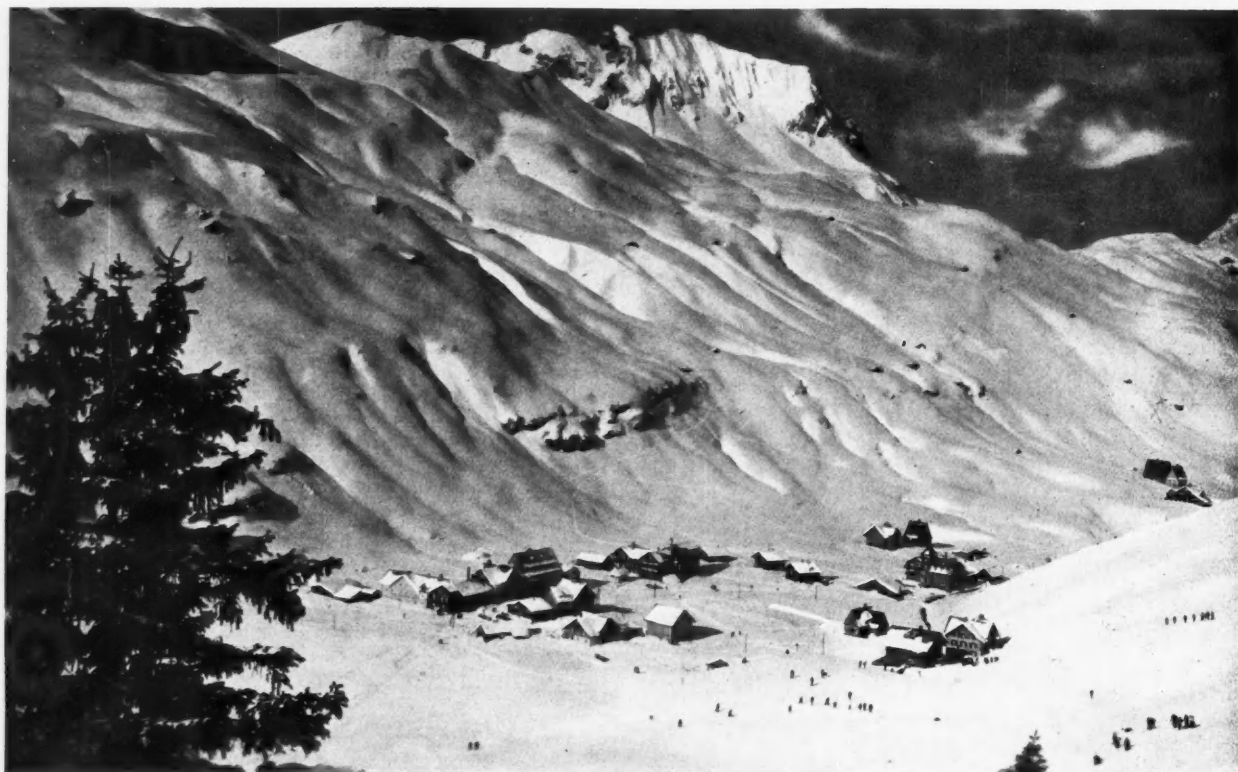
Since this is a survey of the year, let it be said yet again that the authorities at St. Andrews came nobly through their ordeal, and so did the links. The authorities controlled the crowd so that the players had every chance; and the links, if it did not wholly subjugate the players, at least did not let them make a fool of it. It would, indeed, have been tragic if 1933 had had to be written down as the last year in which a championship was played at St. Andrews. Thank goodness there is now no fear of that.

The system of playing amateur international matches between the four countries at one time and in one tournament has now firmly taken root. This year the tournament was played at Newcastle in County Down, and Scotland again came out deservedly top of the poll. Scotland seems at present to be seething with good young amateurs, headed by that very fine golfer, Mr. Jack McLean. They are intensely keen and thorough-going, and it looks as if our chief hope of producing a good Walker Cup side rests on them. There are plenty of good players in England—probably just as good—but at the moment some of them do not appear capable of "delivering the goods" when they most want to do so. It is pleasant to observe that Ireland and Wales can now produce sides fully capable of playing their part in this international tournament, though not, as yet, of winning it. To my horror I see I have forgotten the ladies. Well, in the Championship, Miss Enid Wilson was "Eclipse with the rest nowhere," and at Worplesdon, Miss Wethered showed that she is still peerless.

As regards the "political" events of the year, if they may so be termed, the Royal and Ancient have passed the new rules at which the Rules of Golf Committee had been working for some time past; and the Championship Committee have issued a new amateur definition. Here I must be discreet, since I am a member of both the committees responsible. As regards the rules, the commonest criticism, so far as there has been any, is that they ought to have been much shortened. It is, on the face of it, a reasonable enough criticism, but it may be suggested that many of those who make it would change their tune if they had had to tackle the job themselves. The actual changes made are not in the least epoch-making (does anybody want them to be?), but it is to be hoped that a number of points have been made less liable to misunderstanding. As regards the Amateur definition, most people seem to be well satisfied, and that is a great thing. The original and, to my mind, only logical reason for such a definition, whatever the game, was to protect the man who played for fun against the superior skill naturally acquired by the man who played for his living. Once the law-givers of games got past that they found themselves in a tangle. It can, I hope, at least be said for the latest attempt that it rules out players who do things generally deemed undesirable. What effect it will have remains to be seen. It is possible to think of certain golfers, perfectly honourable men in themselves, who may have to seek some other way of earning a livelihood or cease to play golf as amateurs; but for myself I do not believe the effect will be by any means world-shaking. The difficulty that a good game-player may derive some advantage in his workaday life from his playing skill will be with us to the end of time.

Another "political" question which greatly agitates some people is that of handicaps. Handicaps appear at the moment to be in rather a muddle, because the unions have, with much pains and thought, devised an elaborate scheme, and some clubs have fallen in with it while others have declared that they propose to mind their own business. I am afraid I cannot take this subject as seriously as some of my fellow golfers do. Handicaps, to my mind, were devised to produce more or less entertaining competitions within the limits of each club, and so constitute one of the domestic concerns of each club. I do not believe that any general system will ever be satisfactory or is in fact desirable. An excessive importance has been attached to something that is not worth it. It is possible—such is my possibly heretical but quite impenitent view—to be too solemn even about the game of golf.

WINTER SPORTS IN AUSTRIA



ZURS, ON THE ARLBERG. (1782 M.)

WE are only just beginning to realise in England that winter sports are not necessarily the prerogative of the very well to do. It is possible, of course, to spend £60 for three weeks' ski-ing—any travel bureau will show you how; but it is also possible to spend under £20 for the same period, on the type of winter sports holiday which would appeal to the majority of young or middle-aged English men or women.

Most of the snowfields of Austria can be reached for a return fare of £9 third class, and it is possible to have a fortnight's holiday including accommodation, hotel tips, and taxes, for 15 guineas at third-class fare and 18 guineas with second-class travel. For those who do not have to watch the pence quite so carefully, £14 covers the second-class return fare to most of the best centres, while the first-class return fare averages £20.

Once arrived, there are in Austria hundreds of small hotels and inns at the lesser known winter sports resorts, where, even during the high season, one can live for £2 a week or even less. The ski-ing is as fine as anywhere in Europe, and at most of these places the sport-tax is non-existent, and incidentals are unbelievably small. So you see it can be done. And Austria this year will be particularly glad to welcome you, as her very considerable German *clientèle* has, for political reasons, been completely withdrawn. Whereas 98,000 Germans visited Austria in the summer of 1932, this summer only eight Germans paid the 1,000 mark tax enabling them to spend their holidays in Austria. I am not going to suggest, however, that one should choose one's winter sport centre purely from sentimental or philanthropic motives, even though in so doing one may help a rather battered but gallant nation in a struggle to maintain its political independence; but rather to give an outline

of the possibilities and advantages Austria has to offer, particularly to the ski-er of limited means. First, then, the cost of living.

I have already mentioned the cheapness of hotels for the ordinary visitor. It is also possible to get party reductions, usually of 10 per cent., and if one is prepared to sleep in the *Matratzenlager*—a large dormitory mostly used by students, to be found in a great number of hotels in the smaller resorts—one can live for little more than a pound a week. Guides for a party of four usually cost each member about 5s. a day; ski-ing instruction with a class is still cheaper, 12s. 6d. for a six-day course; and as there are only eleven cable railways in existence in the whole of Austria, overhead expenses in every sense can be said to be extremely small. Even at the best-known resorts which have cable railways, such as Kitzbühel, Zell am See, and Igls, where all the social amenities and luxuries connected with cosmopolitan winter sports can be indulged in, *pension* rates are quoted from about 10s. a day.

There are, of course, very much more expensive hotels in these places: in fact, those who seek the usual etceteras of elegant Swiss hotel life, those who wish to ski downhill only, to skate, toboggan, ski-jör, will do well to choose one of these three centres,

or perhaps Zurs on the Arlberg, where, although there is no cable railway, there are magnificent runs of all kinds and there is plenty to do after dark. Of these Kitzbühel has probably the largest English *clientèle*. All these resorts have excellent ski-ing schools, where the Arlberg technique is taught almost exclusively. Let me say a word about it.

The Arlberg style was evolved by the now world-famous Hannes Schneider, in order to cope with the difficult descent around his native village of Stuben in the Arlberg. Aesthetically



THE "SLALOM" AS PRACTISED IN THE ARLBERG
One of the Schneider brothers who evolved the method is here seen

it is admittedly inferior to the old system of Telemarks and Christianias, but the old system originated in Norway, where climatic conditions make the snow easier, and where descents are less steep than in the Alps. What, however, the Arlberg technique loses in grace is more than compensated for by its safety and general usefulness. Most Swiss, French and German instructors have now adopted it, but it is undoubtedly best taught at the carefully graded and highly organised ski-ing schools at St. Anton or Zürs, directed by Hannes Schneider and his brother. At St. Anton one can pay an inclusive fee of 120 Austrian schillings for a six days' course in the "Daks," or Deutsche Arlberg-Kurse, which covers hotel expenses, all "tips," sport tax, four hours' ski-ing instruction per day, and even repairs to skis. The fact that ski-ing instructors from all over Europe attend these classes does seem to show that the stem and crouch position of the Arlberg style, with weight well forward, is winning the day both for down-hill racing and ordinary cross-country ski-ing.

It is off the cosmopolitan track that Austria is to be seen at her most attractive best. Go to the little unspoiled villages of such valleys as the Montafon, Tuxer, Ziller, Gastein; or the Styrian Alps, where lie some of the most attractive Salzkammergut lakes with the jagged Gesäuse Mountains as a background, where native peasant costume is still worn, peasant dances danced and peasant songs sung, and there you will find a welcome and spirit of naïve Tyrolean friendliness, which has to be experienced to be believed, in this sophisticated world.

Austria is well provided with mountain huts at about a day's ski-ing distance from each other, which are stocked with provisions and fuel during the winter season. The best districts for *Hochtouren* (i.e. cross country ski-ing at great heights) are the Silvretta, which can be managed by good ski-ers without a guide; the Oetztal; and Stubai, where guides are mostly necessary. A certain amount of, say, a fortnight's tour from hut to hut in the last two mentioned districts would probably be roped ski-ing, which means that every member of the party must be an adequate performer. We are rather liable in England to think of winter sports as only being possible at and around Christmas. This is quite wrong, of course. Easter holidays are in many ways better—at least, for ski-ing—than Christmas. Zürs and St. Anton, for instance, which are only 5,000ft. and 4,000ft. respectively, have a season which extends most years till the end of April, and I have experienced new powder snow there as late as April 28th. One of the most attractive features of Easter ski-ing is the amount of sun one can count on. To ski down a mountain in the Tyrol in the late season, and slip gradually into the valley, where the early crocus is peeping through the snow, is an experience one does not easily forget.

MARMOT.



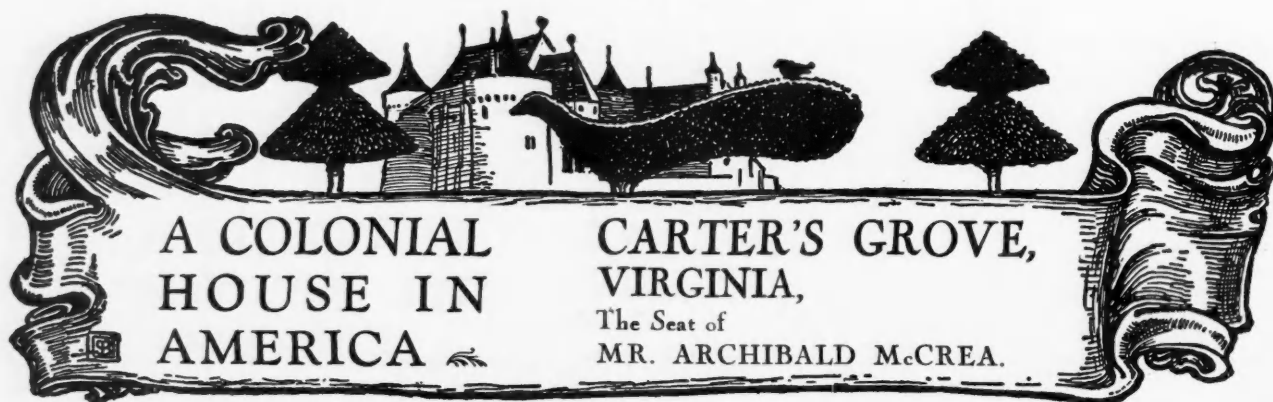
THE VILLAGE OF STUBEN ON THE ARLBERG (1409 M.)



A PARTY CLIMBING THE HIMMELECH



ON THE WAY UP THE TRITTKOPF



This fine example of colonial domestic architecture was built in 1751 by a Virginian planter, Carter Burwell, who employed an English surveyor, David Minitree, to design his house. It has recently been repaired and enlarged by Mr. W. Duncan Lee.

THE old Colonial architecture of North America, which has been the subject of so much keen and painstaking investigation in the United States, is still comparatively little known in England, in spite of the number of substantial country houses and discreet Georgian churches which survive to show how closely the American colonists, in the century before the Secession, followed the architectural tastes and traditions of their cousins in the home country.

Virginia, as the oldest permanent English settlement, can claim many of the finest examples, particularly in that part of the State known as the Tidewater, where the first planters

established themselves along the banks of the wide river estuaries. The narrow tongue of land between the York and the James Rivers was the earliest scene of colonial activity. Here, at now deserted Jamestown, the first expedition of the Virginia Company landed in May, 1607. Here, fifteen years later, occurred the terrible massacre of settlers at the hands of the Indians. Here, in the time of Charles II, was enacted that struggle between the colonists and Governor Berkeley which anticipated by a century the War of Independence. In 1699 the capital of the colony was transferred from Jamestown to Williamsburg, where, seven years previously, the William and Mary College, founded through the exertions of John Blair, had been established by Royal charter.

The new buildings then erected, the College and the Court House, the Governor's Palace and the Capitol—the two latter now being re-built from the evidence of early prints and documents under the Rockefeller scheme for the restoration of Williamsburg—seem to have created a deep impression on the wealthy planters, many of whom as members of the House of Burgesses had to pay frequent visits to the capital. So during the next half-century a wave of architectural activity spread over the peninsula, each landowner rivalling his neighbour in the effort to house himself on a scale of dignity commensurate with his wealth and the size of his estate.

Carter's Grove is one of a number of commodious "seats" built at this period along the banks of the James River, Shirley, Berkeley, Westover and Lower Brandon belonging to the same regional group. Situated about seven miles southeast of Williamsburg, it stands on a bluff of high ground overlooking the broad river estuary and commanding superb views both up and down stream. The slope down to the river bank has been cut into terraces, and on the highest of these, immediately in front of the building, rise three huge tulip trees completely overshadowing its brick walls and slate roofs. In its position, guarded by these giant sentinels, as in the square mass of the main block with its great expanse of hipped roof (Figs. 1 and 2), it is not unlike Westover, the old home of the Byrds, lying a few miles up-river on the same bank.

Carter Burwell, the builder of the house, was the son of Colonel Nathaniel Burwell of



1.—FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



2.—THE SOUTH FRONT

The cottage-like wings were originally detached; that on the right, containing the kitchen, is said to be the earliest building of the group

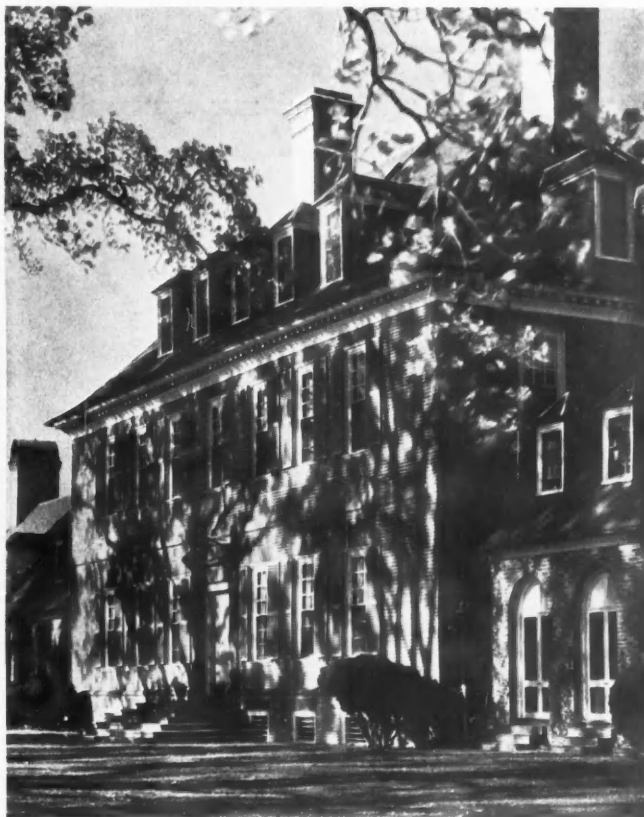
Carter's Creek, who had married Elizabeth, one of the many daughters of that king of Virginian planters, Robert Carter of Corotoman. "King" Carter's vast estates enabled him to provide each of his daughters with a handsome dowry. To

Elizabeth he gave the property, named after him, Carter's Grove; and here, soon after their marriage in 1690, the young couple built themselves a small house. This is said to be the eastern of the two existing wings, which until recently were



3.—THE SOUTH DOORWAY

A simple design in rubbed and moulded brick



4.—THE MAIN BLOCK: SOUTH FRONT

The dormers have been inserted during the recent restoration



5.—GIANT TULIP TREES OVERSHADOWING THE HOUSE

6.—THE DINING-ROOM
Original panelling painted in old ivory

7.—DETAIL OF CARVED BRACKETS ON THE STAIR ENDS

detached buildings; its companion to the west is supposed to have been erected ten or fifteen years later. But the main block was not taken in hand until their eldest son had succeeded, and, fortunately, there survives an old plantation account book which gives details of its construction. According to Mr. R. A. Lancaster (*Historic Virginia Homes*), who quotes particulars from the account book, the date of the building is 1751. The house was begun in June and finished in the following September, and its entire cost was only £500. The building was, of course, carried out by slave labour; none the less, its completion within four months shows that, even in those spacious days, "hustling" was already a New World accomplishment.

The great interest of this old book of accounts is that it preserves the name of the builder-architect. Proud owners of old colonial houses have never been afraid of attributing them to English masters, and it used to be thought that the bulk of the materials used in their construction was shipped over from the Mother Country. Mr. Fiske Kimball, in his comprehensive work *The Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the early Republic*, has shown conclusively that this was very seldom the case. Brick-making in Virginia began as early as 1611 and increased continuously, the total absence of stone on the peninsula acting as a stimulus to the creation of a fine brickwork tradition. At Carter's Grove the account book proves that all the bricks (nearly half a million of them) were made on the spot. Moreover, the other materials—25,000ft. of plank at 10s. a thousand, 40,000 shingles at 4s., and 15,000 laths at 7s.—were brought to the site from a neighbouring centre, the cartage costing £32. But, for once, the legend of an English architect is shown to be correct. For Carter Burwell brought over an English "master-workman," one David Minitree, who evidently came to settle in Virginia, since he brought his wife and family with him. Minitree was paid £115 "for building me a brick house according to agreement," and, in addition, received £25 as a present. It would be of the greatest interest to establish the native town of this English surveyor-builder, as presumably he was, but on this point the account book appears to remain provokingly silent.

The exterior of the house depends for its effect upon the nice spacing of its tall windows and the steep pitch of its roof, curving out over a simple but well defined dentil cornice of wood. The brickwork of the walls, toned to a deep mellow shade, is in Flemish bond; rubbed bricks with fine joints are used for the dressings and for the plain but admirable doorway features on either front, each of which has a triangular pediment executed in moulded brick (Fig. 3.) In the simplicity of its lines and the excellence of its proportions, the house compares favourably with moderate-sized English country houses of the early eighteenth century. In colonial America, where there was no legislation to enforce the substitution of brick parapets for wood cornices, the hipped roof was retained throughout the eighteenth century, so that, compared with their English contemporaries, colonial houses often appear somewhat archaic. The remarkable feature of this roof, considering the depth of the house, is the carrying up of the slopes to a ridge-tree without a flat deck in the centre. The dormers have been inserted in the course of the recent restoration, to the improvement, it must be admitted, of the general effect.

With the linking up of the main block with the cottage-like buildings on either



8.—ENTRANCE HALL AND STAIRCASE

Showing the close resemblance to English interiors of Early Georgian date

side, there has been some sacrifice of appearance to convenience. The earliest American example of a house with balancing wings was the Governor's Palace at Williamsburg, built in 1705-6. There they were detached, as they were formerly at Westover. At Carter's Grove, the eastern block was the

kitchen (Fig. 13), the western an office (Fig. 12). The plan of the main building is the normal one found in these planters' houses, which, with minor variations, conform to a type. A compact mass, two storeys deep, with an ample central hall, is the typical form. Here, perfect symmetry is obtained by



9.—IN THE ENTRANCE HALL
Wainscoting of Virginian pine



10.—THE EAST DRAWING-ROOM
Original pine panelling



11.—THE NEW ROOM, CONNECTING THE MAIN BLOCK WITH THE OLD OFFICE BUILDING. Designed by W. Duncan Lee



12.—THE OLD OFFICE
The large portrait is of Governor Spotswood (1676-1740)



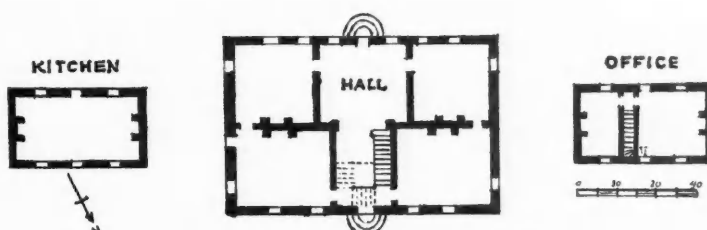
13.—THE KITCHEN

placing the staircase immediately behind the hall, so that the two pairs of rooms on either side balance exactly. The double hall thus created gave an opportunity for a fine architectural treatment of which, as the illustrations (Figs. 8 and 9) show, the most was made.

Entering the front door, one has the illusion of stepping into an English interior, so faithfully reproduced are the characteristic features of Early Georgian wall panelling and staircase design. Compared with other colonial examples, this woodwork is exceptionally refined, as might be expected where the design came direct from an English hand without the intervening medium of the pattern book. Not only is the detail of excellent quality, but the general treatment shows a sure architectural sense as though Minitree had had the experience of working in the office of an architect of repute. The outer hall shows a broad treatment of fluted Ionic pilasters resting on a dado and supporting a full entablature with ovolo frieze and boldly modillioned cornice. A wide elliptical arch with a "keystone" frames the narrower inner hall and staircase. This feature, though found in moderate-sized houses in many parts of England, was much used in the West Country and particularly in the neighbourhood of Bristol. The staircase at Frampton Court, Gloucestershire, and one removed not long ago from a town house in Bristol (No. 1, Trinity Street), can be quoted as close parallels, both dating from the 1730's. Though not sufficient by itself to establish the provenance of Minitree, this evidence might point to a West Country origin: Bristol, as one of the principal ports through which trade and traffic with the American colonies passed, was, at any rate, one of the likeliest centres after London where Carter Burwell might have engaged his architect. Both the balustrade of the staircase and the ramped dado panelling on the wall side are executed in dark mahogany; the floors of the half-landings are parquetry. It is interesting to find that the charming design for the carved brackets (Fig. 7) reappears in almost identical form on the north staircase at Tuckahoe in Goochland County, Virginia. The turned balusters are left plain, only the newels showing spiral twists, and these are quite simply treated by comparison with later examples in America, where not infrequently a counter spiral was carved on the core of the newel running in the opposite direction to the outer coil. The ramped handrail in places exhibits several ugly gashes. These are said to have been made by the sabres of Colonel Tarleton's dragoons, who, when quartered in the house during the latter part of the Revolutionary War, are supposed to have ridden their chargers up the stairs, hacking away at the handrail as they did so.

Opening off the entrance hall on the right is the finely panelled room illustrated in Fig. 10. Here again the design of the woodwork has a refined simplicity. The fireplace feature is framed by fluted Doric pilasters supporting a triglyph frieze and dentil cornice, the metopes being filled with applied stars and pateræ. A very similar treatment to this may be instanced in the dining-room of Goldney House, Clifton (circa 1730), which has been attributed to John Wood of Bath. There the woodwork is in mahogany, and stars and pateræ also appear in the metopes of the frieze, but in inlaid woods instead of as carved features. So close a resemblance between two panelled rooms only a few years apart in time but separated by a whole ocean can scarcely be a coincidence, and gives added probability to the suggestion we have thrown out, that Minitree was a Bristol man.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century Carter Burwell's son Nathaniel moved from Carter's Grove to Clarke County, where he built Carter Hall. According to tradition, it was in the drawing-room that Thomas Jefferson proposed to Rebecca Burwell, and against the same background George Washington is said to have been refused by Mary Carey of Williamsburg, afterwards Mrs. Jacquelin Ambler. After Nathaniel Burwell's departure the house knew various changes of ownership until, in December, 1927, it was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McCrea. With Mr. W. Duncan Lee as their architect, they have carefully repaired the house and introduced modern conveniences, and, as already



14.—PLAN OF THE HOUSE BEFORE ALTERATION

mentioned, have brought the detached office buildings into direct communication with the main block by filling up the intervening gaps. All the old woodwork has been preserved and many layers of paint and varnish have been removed to reveal the mellow surface of the old Virginian pine. Forty years ago a writer described the pitiful state into which the entrance hall had fallen: all the woodwork had been painted "in shrieking tones of red, white, blue and—*mirabile dictu*—green!" It is good to know that, after many years of neglect, this fine house has been rescued from the fate which has overtaken not a few of its neighbours and is once again in the hands of appreciative owners. ARTHUR OSWALD.

AT THE THEATRE

"ON WITH THE SHOW"

THERE is a custom in India whereby parents call their children by displeasing nicknames in the hope of averting the unwelcome attentions of the gods. A child called Rose of Rapture is obviously treasure for Heaven, whereas there is a chance that Ill-Favoured One will be allowed to continue playing around its fond parents' doorstep. In some such way Mr. Lawrence Wright would have been better advised to call his production "Off with the Show!" because that is very nearly what happened to it, summarily, and on the first night. From the very start the piece had been heading for disaster, the only hope being that sheer comicality of distress might save it. The origin of this revue was Blackpool, it being held that if all London cannot come to Blackpool, Blackpool can at least come to all London. No expense had been spared to alter the inside of the Princes Theatre or with the costumes of a very large company. The show had the severe handicap that it had no comedians who were funny and no material for any sort of comedians to be funny with. The business of criticism is to be constructive though there is always the old difficulty that before you can build up it is sometimes necessary to pull down. Given even good material I cannot think that the comedians at present in the cast could possibly engage the attention of so highly critical an audience as the London popular one. The management, if it desires to save this show, must at once and at any expense import two first-class humorists. The sketches were incredibly bad, and in the middle of the last one the players suddenly gave up hope and walked off the stage leaving the electrician to turn off the lights.

LANCASHIRE MUSIC

And yet the show was in conception not nearly so instinct with doom as some more pretentious West-End inanities that I remember. There was a good deal of cheerful Blackpool about some of it, enough to tell one not what those wild waves were saying but what presumably they like listening to. Let into the stage floor and hoisted and lowered by a lift was an organ guaranteed by the programme to be the first ever built in a theatre in this country and the largest in the world. I do not quite understand this; if the programme means that this is the largest cinema-organ it should say so. The installation certainly made one of the nastiest noises ever inflicted upon polite ears, although to ears inured to the clatter of Lancashire mills the row may be jocundity itself. Possibly, too, the people who live in the grey streets of industrial Lancashire may appreciate a glass-house method of organ-construction permitting coloured lighting in all the sicklier shades of Blackpool Rock. Anyhow on this noble instrument Mr. Reginald Dixon perpetrated what I take to be the least musical and certainly the longest piece of music ever devised, being the onomatopoeic representation of a tempest. This finally concluded, Mr. Trevor Watkins mounting to the dress-circle by means of an improvised staircase sang a threnody or coronach entitled "The Last Round-Up" in which an Australian cowboy hoped he was going to earn his last rest. One thinks that revue should eschew metaphysics; the answer to the cowboy is that he is going to get his last rest whether he has earned it or not. But on the whole the organ and the vocalist were a success. There were some more agreeable moments in which Miss Catherine

Vennstrom and Mr. Watkins ransacked opera for our benefit. They began with "Trovatore" and went breathlessly on, or one of them did, to the Toreador's Song from "Carmen," which was immediately followed by the famous Barcarolle, all of these being appropriately illustrated by tableaux-vivants in the background. Mr. Watkins then came forward to assure us that *la donna è mobile*. During this the lady sate frigidly and something aloof preparatory to proving by means of Gounod's "Ave Maria"—abbess genuflecting in pink and cloistral background!—that woman is not necessarily so flighty as Mr. Watkins with the sympathetic assistance of Verdi had been suggesting. Sixteen Blackpool Babes having interpolated thirty seconds out of the ballet called "Coppélia," Miss Vennstrom and Mr. Watkins then devoted their talents to an extraordinary amalgam of the Venusberg Music and the last act of "Faust." It should be said that the accompanying music was performed by a band on the stage wearing ordinary evening-dress but for some unknown reason coiffed and girt with the headgear and cloaks of the Life Guards. Here again it was all very nice and noisy.

A MATTER OF PRINCIPALS

The difficulty came when the row temporarily ceased and one had to look round for individual artistry. Some measure of success was achieved by Miss Betty Frankiss who is charming to look at and appears to have a genuine desire to please. Miss Frankiss would also appear to have some kind of talent and, what is more important in revue, to be able to wear clothes. She appeared in one confection which in so far as it was shimmering and sophisticated suggested *la Garbo* at her slinkiest, but which in its black swathings and fin-like protuberances reminded one still more of the monster of Loch Ness. Miss Frankiss contrived not only to act in this confusion but to walk in it, from which some measure of genius may be argued. Having discovered Miss Frankiss one looked round for somebody to keep her company, and as there was nobody else it just had to be Mr. Patrick Waddington who was as much out of his social element as a Martian or a Tibetan Lama. One wondered how Mr. Waddington got on at rehearsals and who acted as interpreter, for he does not speak Lancashire and one does not quite see how a good Northerner could understand Mr. Waddington. There were some other artists who might have been funny at the end of Southport Pier providing you had prepared yourself to be amused by walking the whole dreary way. And one goes back to the start, that there is nothing wrong with "On with the Show" except the material and the lack of comedians. In its present state the piece is not even as good as a Gracie Fields revue without Gracie Fields. At the end of the evening the producer came forward and said that he hoped it would all be better by-and-by. "By-and-by," observed Hamlet, "is easily said." But in the theatre it is an expensive word. Mr. Lawrence Wright, however, is said to have more money than Mr. Horatio Nicholls knows what to do with. This being so there should be no difficulty in keeping the show open while further rehearsals can be held, though I do not think it is quite fair to the public to ask it to pay for what will really be rehearsals. The show ought to be ready again by the middle of January, and if in the meanwhile I may give Mr. Wright a tip it is to leave his chorus alone and worry about his principals. GEORGE WARRINGTON.

A FUTURE HOME of the THOROUGHBRED TELSCOMBE AND ITS SPORTING TRADITIONS



Mr. GORHAM'S RACEHORSES ON THE DOWNS

TELSCOMBE in East Sussex came into the news again the other day. We heard quite a lot about it back in the summer, when its much loved "squire," Ambrose Gorham, died. With the exception of two houses—the Vicarage, and the picturesque old place in which General Watson has lived since the War—he owned the whole of the village. By his will all his big interests in Telscombe and the surrounding downland, part being under cultivation, were left to the Brighton Corporation. He imposed trusts by which the Corporation must see to it that the rural, sporting, and open character of the place should never be encroached upon by the rampageous builder. For he gloried in the Sussex Downs and in his share of them in particular.

Knowing the spot, perhaps as intimately as anyone, as I knew the fine old sportsman, I wondered what the Brighton Corporation would do about it. For Mr. Gorham did not make the farming pay in recent years. Yet he carried on because farming and the rearing of the stock, meaning employment and bread and butter for his villagers, were a hobby with him. He was content. But would a corporate body be content?

Mr. Ernest Thornton-Smith has supplied the solution. He has relieved the Brighton Corporation of financial responsibility by leasing the property for fifty-six years, while undertaking to maintain the traditions of Telscombe as left by its late owner. Mr. Thornton-Smith is admirably fitted for what he has undertaken. It is not necessary for him to make money out of the place.

For him, too, such development as he may have in mind will be in the nature of a hobby. He is proposing, if the necessary investigations as to the grass and the water should be encouraging, to establish there a stud farm where may be maintained one or two stallions, and that will be, of course, a home for brood mares and their offspring. I cannot imagine anything being more after the heart of the grand old man who got so much pleasure out of the place for thirty years and more.

The new lessee is well known in his various business interests and at the Board of Agriculture, where he is doing good work. He has racehorses in training with Fred Templeman at Lambourn. With Chatelaine he won the Oaks this year; while his smart filly Cotoneaster will make an important ornament of a prospective stud. It is obviously his ambition to breed his Oaks winners of the future.

I shall be interested to watch developments at Telscombe. I do not see why racehorses of note should not be bred there. No real attempt has ever been made to do so. It is something we have to learn. Mr. Gorham won the Manchester November Handicap as far back as 1911 with a horse named Ultimus, a beautifully bred horse by William the Third, by St. Simon. He thought he would try him out as a stallion at Telscombe, but it was a hopeless job from the start. He was far from being an ideal studmaster. Owners of mares were not attracted by the notion of sending their animals to an unproved stud and to a horse that could not only be criticised in the matter of conformation



W. A. Rouch

TELSCOMBE: "A CLUSTER OF SMALL HOUSES AND FARM BUILDINGS WITH A VERY OLD CHURCH, WITH A STUB OF A STEEPLE, IN A HOLLOW OF THE DOWNS"

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but was only a handicapper after all. The "Squire" did not bother about buying any mares for mating with him, as must be done to assist the making of a horse which breeders were not likely to run after in the first instance. So Ultimus did no good, and that, I think, was the beginning and end of Telscombe as a stud farm of the rearing of thoroughbred horses in the time of its late owner.

But what memories the place conjures up in my mind! I take it you know where it is on the map, though it is possible you might be very close to it without knowing of its proximity. For it is a cluster of small houses and farm buildings with a very old church, with a stub of a steeple, in a hollow of the downs. A mile or more away over the grass is the main Brighton-Newhaven road and then the sea. A couple of miles by a narrow track on the other side and you come to the Newhaven-Lewes road. So it can be said to be in a triangle, the three corners of which are Brighton, Newhaven, and Lewes.

Three miles or so away over the downs is Rottingdean, on the outskirts of which Mr. Gorham had kennels on some property he had there. Kennels for greyhounds and kennels for a pack of beagles. Those were the good old days when the Squire showed unique sport to his friends. Greyhound racing came to change ideas of sport with the long-tail dogs. Ambrose Gorham's greyhounds were maintained by him because coursing was one of his loves. They won stakes here and there, especially on the flats between Bognor and Arundel; but, more than that, they gave him the satisfaction of knowing he was doing something to keep alive this old-time field sport.

Then there were the beagles. Game, keen, hard-working, and intelligent miniature hounds they were. The day came when he sold the pack to go to America. And the greyhounds dwindled in numbers as the War went on until the day came when the kennels were left empty except for memories. There was village cricket on an improvised pitch on the upland which formed a protective spur to the village, with occasionally a county "pro." introduced to supply the "fireworks"; and

there were badger "digs," perhaps even some "cocking" on the "strict q.t."; and a silver cup for any stable lad who could stay the full course in open boxing competition. But horses were his first and last love. Racehorses and hunters they were, the former chiefly for steeplechasing and the latter for days with the Southdown Hunt. He used to say: "I can't understand why anyone wants to go abroad when they can stay at home and have such sport as in the South Downs."

It was on the Telscombe downs that Lord Clifden was trained to win the St. Leger of 1863 for Lord St. Vincent. On the same downs Shannon Lass was trained for her great Grand National triumph in the Squire's chocolate and brown colours. He had bought her cheaply, along with two others, for not more than £400 the lot. The mare was just one of a pretty big string which he was able to afford to keep in training in those years. I remember him telling me that Wolf's Folly was a much better thing for the Grand National than Shannon Lass had been, but something incredibly unlucky happened to him.

Those were rare sporting days for the hidden village, days when the Squire and his friends would hack along with the string of racehorses, see them work on the flat or, when schooled, over the hurdles and fences. And once a week, perhaps, there would be the call of racing at some Sussex or Surrey course to be heeded; while in season the shepherd in his rough shack in a shelter of the downs would never go unvisited while the lambs were arriving almost every moment.

I cannot imagine Telscombe will ever see those days again. Modern life and rush may be closing in too much and making scarcer the wild pheasant, the partridge, the badger, even the fox, and the hare and the humble rabbit. There is more wire than in early days there, more gate-opening to do, and less sense of freedom and loneliness. But I see possibilities in it as a home of the thoroughbred, with ozone-laden air, well nursed land, and intelligent management. Mr. Ernest Thornton-Smith's experiment will be watched with a very live interest. PHILIPPOS.

A CIRCULAR STAIRCASE

DESIGNED BY MESSRS. SMITH AND BREWER FOR HEAL'S SHOP



THE THIRD FLOOR LANDING
The new staircase at Messrs. Heal's



LOOKING DOWN—A SPIRAL STUDY

A FEW weeks ago, in an article describing the new Morecambe Hotel designed by Mr. Oliver Hill, illustrations were shown of the charming circular staircase which is one of the most striking features of the building. An interesting comparison is immediately suggested by the circular stair, recently completed, at Messrs. Heal's shop in Tottenham Court Road.

The tiresome business of going upstairs becomes considerably less irksome when the staircase itself is made a focus of interest and distraction. Certainly many modern staircases fail to give any psychological assistance of this kind. Indeed, all too often the process of ascent is rendered grimmer, instead of easier, especially for those mortals to whom stairs are bound to be a persistent source of trouble. At Messrs. Heal's there are lifts for those whose wind is short; but the graceful spiral ascent of the new staircase, with its easy shallow treads, has seduced at least one visitor from resorting to mechanical aid.

The staircase is an extension of an old staircase which only went up to the first floor level. The completed stair, cased in a drum 16ft. in diameter, serves all six floors. It has been designed by Messrs. Smith and Brewer, the firm responsible for the original design of the shop, the front of which, though now sixteen years old, still presents one of the most successful solutions on modern lines of this very difficult architectural problem.

The circular stair at the Morecambe Hotel has balustrades of metal, horizontally treated. A metal balustrade was considered here, but rejected for one of wood, as being more appropriate for a furniture shop and having the advantage that it could be treated in colour. A pleasant scheme has been worked out in Indian red and black on a light cream ground with a little silver leaf added here and there.

The cantilever steps of concrete which were cast *in situ* have for the same reason been given treads of oak. On the underside they have an interesting pattern of radiating mouldings to which additional emphasis has been given by a unique system of lighting. Philinear lamps are fitted into the wide portion of each step, the repetition of tubular lights giving an admirable effect. The walls are finished in fluted light cream Biancola, each flute being emphasised by a thin metal strip in "Birmabright."

A mural tablet on the first floor, with lettering designed and carved by Eric Gill, records the names of the heads of the firm, beginning with John Harris Heal, who founded the shop in 1810. This beautiful staircase has an additional interest as being among the last works with which Mr. Dunbar Smith was associated before his recent death.

THE AVOCET



IN ALL HER GRACEFULNESS OF BLACK AND WHITE

I SHALL always remember the beautiful May morning when I first saw a pair of avocets feeding on the mud of a Dutch tideway and marvelling at their wonderful plumage. Many times had I looked at drawings and paintings of these birds and longed for the time when I might see them in the flesh, and here at last they were in all their gracefulness and black and white splendour busily searching for food with their incredibly fine and very much curved bills. What they were obtaining I do not know, but they seemed to be working their heads in a quarter circle by sweeping their bills in a scythe-like manner just below the surface of the shallows in which they were wading.

As we approached them they took wing, calling their plaintive note of "Kluit. Kluit," and, as in the case of the black-tailed godwit, this call note has been used by the Dutch for the bird's name.

Later we were fortunate to see the avocets in a spread-out colony, where we found nests on shingle or sand in marshy ground, and even on comparatively short green grassland. Such colonies are rigidly and very carefully protected, and photography from a hide is not permitted under any circumstances in the main colonies. Permission to work isolated nests may be granted, however, to photographers who are known to be experienced and, therefore, not likely to take any undue risks which might cause any mishap to the nests.

The pair of birds which I worked, and of which photographs illustrate this article, were on white sand. I have never seen such a glare from any sandy area before, but all the time we were there the sun shone brilliantly, which may have exaggerated things to a certain extent. But I am sure that, even on the most brilliant of days, the yellow sand to which we are accustomed could not have caused such a literally piercing light as the white sand of this glorious Dutch beach on those days of late May.

Winding our way towards the sand-dunes, we came eventually to a vast expanse of sand interspersed with large patches of broken

shell, and here and there thin grass and a short stubby herbage. Running across the sand and shingle we saw several birds, which we took to be ringed plover, but on closer inspection we were delighted to see that they were Kentish plover.

Presently we saw an avocet flying seawards and then another running in front of us, feigning a broken wing. We soon saw the four eggs, which resemble those of the oyster-catcher. All this time the old bird was flapping her wings round us, crawling about trying to attract us, and she reminded me of the way the Arctic skuas in the Shetlands behave when their nest is approached. The flapping of the wings in both these species seems much slower and more raised than is the case in other birds which endeavour to attract one away from their eggs or young by similar means.

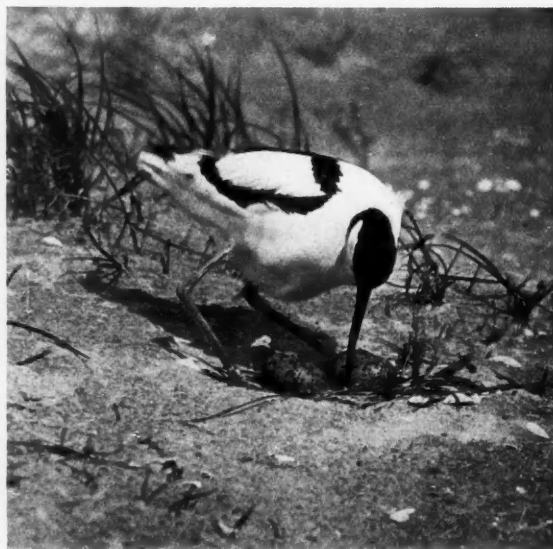
Some hundred yards or so ahead we came to the nest I was to photograph, and put up a hide. The birds apparently took little heed of this, as, an hour or two later, when I had been left by our small party, the cock bird returned within a few minutes. Looking out of my peep-hole I had a most entrancing view. In the immediate foreground was the nest, if it could be called such—actually a mere scrape—and its four eggs, a few tufts of marram grass and a sprinkling of white shells. Farther off were tiny sand hillocks which also had tufts of this grass on them. I could see two other avocets sitting on their eggs on these hillocks, and then beyond these was the flat seashore stretching far into the distance.

Naturally, I was more than glad to see that my pair of avocets did not bother about my hide, and both birds had apparently made off towards the sea on our approach. My friends could not have been more than a hundred yards away when I saw both birds running towards me. When they were about fifty yards away the hen stopped and the cock came running on, hardly hesitating until within a few feet of the nest. It then started to shake each foot violently, which looked to me as if it were trying



Ian M. Thomson

THE HEN BESIDE HER EGGS, HER WEBBED FEET FLAT ON THE SAND



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TURNING THE EGGS BEFORE SITTING

to shake the sand off its toes. This foot shaking was the greatest difficulty I was up against, as I never knew when they might do it, and, in consequence, many plates were spoilt.

Both birds incubated, and it was most amusing to see the way the birds straddled their eggs and then managed to dispose of their very long legs by folding them beneath them in a truly wonderful manner. In my godwit article I mentioned the manner in which they did this, but the avocets' legs seemed so much longer in comparison and also more slender.

As a rule, when they changed places on the eggs the relieving bird would stand some distance off until its mate had left the nest. Only once did both birds come close enough for me to record them. In this case the cock was incubating and the hen came close to him before he stood up and trotted off to the seashore. I had hoped for a perfect negative, but once again that wretched "sand-between-my-toes" shaking of the leg caused movement.

I spent two delightful days with these birds and wish time could have allowed longer. Perhaps another year, I may be able to work the birds at a green site instead of in the very difficult and glaring sand, which is almost impossible to render correctly from a photographic point of view.

I mentioned that permission could not be obtained to photograph in the colonies, only isolated nests being allowed. Admirable as the Dutch are in their knowledge of birds and their protection, I personally cannot understand their point of view with regard to photographing in these colonies. Experience in the past has always shown that, if a hide is placed in a colony, the birds to be worked gain confidence from those on the fringes, which settle almost at once; a general convergence of settling birds then takes place, until those immediately by the hide come down. Isolated nests, I think, are far more liable to disaster from their enemies.

Before we left the avocet country we visited the main colony, and there saw many newly hatched chicks, and with the excellent summer that has followed, I have no doubt that the numbers will be greatly increased when the birds return once more to breed next season. Would that they could find their way to our shores again, where I am certain they would receive that protection which was lacking in the days before they left us.

IAN M. THOMSON.



THE HEN BENDING OVER HER EGGS



TURNING THE EGGS WITH HIS SLENDER BILL OPEN



Ian M. Thomson

THE HEN COMING TO RELIEVE THE SITTING COCK
She is shaking the sand "out of her toes"

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NEWCOMERS TO THE GARDEN

Some noteworthy plants of recent introduction that give promise of being valuable acquisitions for the hardy flower border and rock garden

A PART from the numerous additions that have been made in the last few years to the ranks of such ornamental shrubs as the rhododendrons, barberries and cotoneasters and of such genera as the primulas, meconopsis and gentians, through botanical exploration and discovery in China and its borderlands, there have been many other good plants introduced from elsewhere whose virtues have, perhaps, been rather overlooked in the present vogue for Chinese plants. From both North and South America have come many plants of considerable merit. South Africa has been little less generous in its contribution; and for the last five or six years there has been a steady flow of new material from Kashmir and Nepal, which still continues. To no one more than to Mr. T. Hay of Hyde Park has the introduction of the great majority of these plants been due, and it is mainly to his indefatigable efforts in an executive capacity that gardeners are indebted for such remarkably fine plants as the two South African Ursinias, anethoides and pulchra, which are now firmly established in our list of annual flowers, many of the arctotis, the handsome Venidium fastuosum, the rich yellow Fremontia mexicana, the shrubby heath-like Gilia californica, the lovely Oregon phlox called argillacea, the giant broom, Cytisus Battandieri from Morocco, which only this season has made its appearance in trade catalogues, Meconopsis regia and Dhwojii, Gentiana ornata, Primula sonchifolia, P. Wollastoni,



AN EXCELLENT ANEMONE FOR THE BORDER

A. tetrasepala with handsome leafage and graceful sprays of pure white flowers



A GIANT AMONG THE BROOMS

Cytisus Battandieri from Morocco with silvery-white foliage and golden-yellow blossoms



THE CHARMING SOUTH AMERICAN NIEREMBERGIA HIPPOMANICA WITH PURPLISH-BLUE FLOWERS



THE DAINTY POTENTILLA CORIANDRIFOLIA
With finely cut leaves and flowers of pure white with a crimson disc

P. Buryana, the magnificent pure white *P. Wigramiana* which it is hoped will be seen in flower next year, and the charming violet-flowered lily, *L. macrophyllum*, from Nepal, that has already flowered and seeded in a few gardens.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding of recent introductions from South America is a lovely little *Nierembergia* named *hippomanica*, whose habit of growth and free flowering qualities are well revealed in one of the accompanying illustrations. With its neat and compact dwarf tufts of slender stems and linear leaves and purplish blue flowers that are generously given all through the summer, it is quite distinct from any other member of the race, and, judging by its behaviour at Hyde Park this year, it promises to be a valuable acquisition to our list of bedding plants. Also from South America have come two striking additions to that climbing race of composites known as the *mutisias*, *M. oligodon* introduced by Comber from Chile about six years ago, with lovely salmony pink flowers, which now seems fairly well established in a number of gardens; and an orange scarlet species, *M. subulata*, introduced by Mr. Clarence Elliot, which is still rare in cultivation and by no means easy to grow. The former is a charming plant where it has

some support to ramble over, and, though doubtfully hardy, it should be perfectly comfortable in any sheltered garden in the south or west, where many other Chilean plants find the conditions to their liking.



PHLOMIS CASHMERIANA WITH HANDSOME LEAFAGE AND FLOWERS OF LILAC ROSE



THE LIGHT AND GRACEFUL FLOWER SPRAYS OF ERIGONUM NIVEUM



FLOWERS OF RUDBECKIA HIRTA SHOWING VARIATIONS FROM PURE YELLOW TO BRONZY-RED

Similar in habit to the wall-flowers and in bloom about the same time, but with blue flowers, *Morandia sonchifolia* has some claim to recognition as a plant for spring bedding as well as for greenhouse decoration, while for the bog garden or a moist border the handsome mallow, *Speralcea acerifolia*, some four feet high with fine spikes of lilac tinted flowers, is too good to be neglected. Those who do not mind the trouble of raising it from seed every year should try the brilliant red *Pentstemon Eatoni*, a striking border plant whose only drawback is its tender constitution. The pure yellow *Rudbeckia hirta* is a first-rate summer-flowering perennial for the border, and to the type there has just been added several coloured forms that have originated in the wild, showing all gradations in shade between pure yellow and rich coppery red and all degrees of zonation, that considerably enhance the ornamental value of this fine border plant which affords a striking display of its large starry flowers from July on until the autumn. These forms are now offered from seed, which throws a large percentage of richly coloured flowers. Two monardellas—best described as miniature monardas, as they only grow about a foot high—both promise well, as does the lovely *Mertensia Horneri*, a lovely plant for those fortunate enough to possess an alpine house. It only grows about four or five inches high, and tops its soft stems with large clusters of drooping tubular flowers of a lovely turquoise blue. Another good plant that comes from the same neighbourhood as the



THE SALMONY PINK FLOWERS OF MUTISIA OLIGODON

mertensia is *Erigonum niveum*, which those who visited the Olympia show may recall having seen among the new plants. A large genus, it is as yet poorly represented in gardens, and this member is possibly one of the best of the race. With its silvery white leaves on foot-high, branching, pure white stems carrying crowded spikes of small white flowers it is a singularly attractive hardy plant which, if not brilliant in its effect, is at least worth a place in the border for the sake of the charming contrast it affords in colour and texture.

Though Nepal has proved a rich hunting ground for meconopsis, gentians and primulas, it has not yet yielded the variety of fine garden plants that have recently come from Kashmir. Raised from seed sent from Kashmir, *Phlomis cashmeriana* is a splendid plant which, if not so showy as its cousin, *P. fruticosa*, will nevertheless appeal to those who like quiet floral beauty. It is not a

new comer, but has long been out of cultivation, and its re-introduction is to be welcomed, for it is a hardy and easily grown plant of some distinction with handsome pale green foliage and three-foot stems bearing two or three whorls of large lilac rose flowers. Two campanulas—*C. argyrotricha*, with greyish leaves and light blue blossoms; and *C. alsinoides*, with white flowers—are both gems for the rock garden, as is the dwarf aconite called *cordata*, with large deep blue flowers almost the size of those of the well known *A. napellus*, but carried on a neat and compact plant seldom more than about nine inches high. Two other good border plants



A DAINTY LITTLE GLOBE FLOWER. TROLLIUS GAMMIANUS WITH FLAT FLOWERS OF RICH GOLDEN YELLOW

An excellent plant for a damp spot in the rock garden

from Kashmir are to be found in the new catmint, *Nepeta nervosa*, which gives generously of its blue flowers from late May until September, and seems to do best in a partially shaded situation; and the handsome *Anemone tetraspala*, seed of which is now offered. This is a handsome anemone with masses of pure white blossoms well worthy of a place in the border, but, like so many of its race, it takes time to settle down, and its full beauty will only be revealed to the gardener who can wait for three years or so until it is established. Though not quite hardy, *Lysimachia Leschenaulta*, from the Nilgheri Hills, is a charming plant for a warm and sunny border, with spikes of rosy red flowers. It is easily raised and can be had in flower the second year from seed.

Many of the recent newcomers among primulas and meconopsis from Nepal have already been described, but besides these there is a choice *Potentilla* called *coriandrifolia* and a new *trollius* named *Gammianus* that both deserve recognition. The former is a beautiful little alpine only a few inches high, with beautifully cut foliage and dainty white flowers enhanced with a crimson disc that lends character as well as charm to the plant. The *trollius*, of neat and compact habit, with large open flowers of a rich golden yellow, has already proved itself a first-rate plant for a moist corner in the rock garden, where it flowers freely in the early summer, and it is to be hoped that seed will soon be plentiful enough to allow of its more widespread cultivation.

G. C. TAYLOR.

CORRESPONDENCE

"LORD WOLVERTON'S BLOOD-HOUNDS"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Well do I remember these hounds after Lord Carrington bought them, and there must surely be several people who remember them in the Blackmore Vale country, as well as some Buckinghamshire farmers. I know Lady Aylesford used to stay at Iwerne Minster and hunt with Lord Wolverton; and, of course, Lady Lincolnshire would remember them coming to Wycombe. They were not what we fox-hunting gentlemen would call a hard-driving pack; they generally followed one another somewhat leisurely, and when they came to a fence lay down and howled: when reproached for this conduct they went home.

We had one memorable day. The stag was enlarged (is this the right word?) above the kennels at Daw's Hill, and went pretty straight, parallel with the railway, to Aylesbury, where someone caught it. We accompanied one or two hounds and the huntsman, who was a smart, excellent man handicapped by his company. We, the field, followed at times without undue haste. Having retrieved the prey—I think possibly with the aid of one couple of bloodthirsty hounds, we all, horses and men, went back to Wycombe by train, stopping at all the stations to pick up the different hounds which were strolling about the platforms, and which were gently assisted into the van by the porters and others. And so home, after quite a nice day.

What eventually became of the hounds I do not know, though I might guess. Anyhow, Lord Carrington got rid of them, and lent me his kennels, in 1880, for the whole time I had the Old Berkeley hounds until I took my hounds to Northamptonshire in 1885; after which he gave up Wycombe Abbey and built the present house on the site of the old kennels at Daw's Hill.

I may say that during the time I was hunting the Buckinghamshire country, Lord Carrington—who at that time owned much property in the county—with his usual charm, assisted me in every way, and between us we planted Kimblewick Covert in the Aylesbury Vale; and I owed a great deal of my first mastership to his kindness. But I did not learn much about hunting from his blood-hounds, which must have been a great shock to him after being Master of the Cottesmore.—AUSTIN MACKENZIE.

A SCARCITY OF TITS

TO THE EDITOR

SIR,—I wonder whether any of your correspondents who keep a bird-table have noticed an extraordinary scarcity of tits this winter. I have had a table here for the past nine years, and feed twice a day with soaked hound-meat and scraps, and keep a hopper of hemp seed and one of the ordinary parrot food, and a couple of coconuts always on the table.

Up to this year the most constant visitors have been great tits, of which there are usually four or five pairs constantly on the table; then two or three pairs of blue tits

one or two pairs of marsh tits, which come for the sunflower seeds in the parrot mixture; and an occasional cole tit, which seems to be the scarcest of the tits here (Andover).

This year, since I began to feed at the beginning of the cold weather, I have never seen a great tit on the table, and only once a pair of these birds on the ground under the nearest trees. Once or twice I have seen a cole tit, occasionally a blue tit, and once or twice a marsh tit on the table, but in each case I could count the times on my fingers. In other years they have come all day long.

There were at least six broods of great tits in boxes in the garden last summer, which makes the present scarcity all the more curious.

It would be interesting to hear if any other correspondent has noticed a scarcity of tits in their neighbourhood, and I very much wonder what can be the cause of the apparent scarcity here.—M. L. DUNCOMBE-ANDERSON.

"THE DEATH'S HEAD MOTH"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—On August 9th, 1900, I found nine Death's Head caterpillars on a small potato patch at Happisburgh, Norfolk. These were already a good size, probably about half grown; in any case, they all burrowed in the few days preceding September 1st, for on that date I had to dig them up out of the box to take away with me. Probably owing to this treatment only three specimens, though very fine ones, came out as moths on November 30th (I had handed them to a friend to look after and do not know what methods he employed). These dates are accurate, as I have taken them from my diary made at the time on the spot. They would seem to show the appearance of Death's Head moths earlier than the end of July.—C. A. RANGER.

THE ENTRY INTO THE ARK

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you a photograph of what I hope you will agree is a rather pleasant old German print of the Entry into the Ark. The Flood does not appear very imminent at the moment, nor are the animals in any great hurry to go in. They appear, however, to be parading about in a well disciplined manner, and are perhaps merely waiting their turn. The Ark itself looks as if its ventilation would leave something to be desired. The mountains in the background presumably suggest Mount Ararat.—H. CRAWSHAY FROST.

THE BRETTINGHAMS AND HOLKHAM

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In his letter on the architect of Charlton Park (Matthew Brettingham) Mr. Christopher Hussey alludes to Robert Furze Brettingham, his nephew (1750–1806). My grandfather, Richard Ereton Brettingham, was the nephew of this Robert Furze (? Freston) Brettingham and of Anthony Freston né Brettingham, both mentioned in the *Dictionary of National Biography* as nephews of Matthew.

The name Freston (has it not been transformed into Furze in the case of Robert?) was inherited from the marriage of Robert Brettingham of Norwich, the architect's brother, in about 1748 with Henrietta Freston—daughter of an old-established Norfolk family. Since the Frestons were related by numerous marriages with the Coke family, the architect Matthew Brettingham (Kent's pupil) thus found himself related through his new sister-in-law to his client, the Earl of Leicester, when Kent's death in 1748 left him in full charge of the work at Holkham. For many years Brettingham had resided at the old mansion, and subsequently he lived at the new.

I have never seen any allusion to this relationship published.

About 1550 Sir Richard Freston had married Ann Coke; Anthony Freston (died 1697) had married a granddaughter of Chief Justice Coke and Bridget Paston, his first wife; his eldest son Richard married Mary, daughter and coheir of Sir William Coke, Bt., of Broome.

As a child I can remember some old editions of Pope, Swift and Addison, on the title pages of which were inscribed the names of Matthew Brettingham and of Robert Freston. The latter's middle name was more or less indecipherable, with a long s resembling a z. It seems more likely that it was Freston, his mother's name, than Furze.—E. H. B.

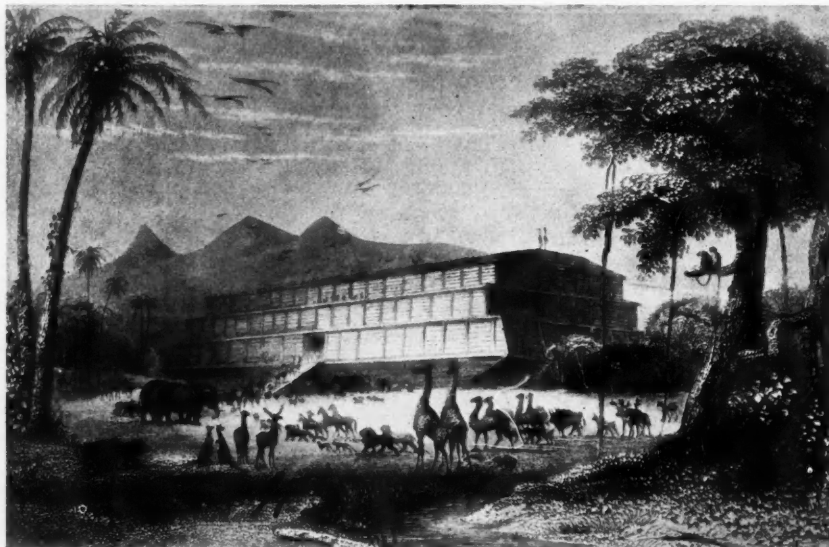
"MRS. HOWARD AND MRS. HUBBARD"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I have a proof engraving of the portrait illustrated in your issue of the 9th inst. described as "Mrs. Howard, by Ramsey (?)." On the lower margin is written in pencil "Viscountess Andover." "T. Hudson P. T. Faber F."—A. E. BAKER.

[This seems to dispose of the identification

of this portrait, by the owners of Charlton Park, as Mrs. Howard, Countess of Suffolk. This Lady Andover must be Mary, second daughter of Heneage, Earl of Aylesford, who married William, Lord Andover, eldest son of the eleventh Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, in 1736—the probable date of the portrait. She did not succeed to the Suffolk title, since her husband was killed in 1756 by a fall from his carriage. But when, in the following year, her father-in-law died, it was her elder son who succeeded to Charlton and the title at the age of eighteen. So that she, doubtless



THE ANIMALS WENT IN TWO BY TWO

was mistress of Charlton for a time. Her son Henry, twelfth Earl, was the Secretary of State, and re-builder of the house from Matthew Brettingham II's designs. This lady lived to a great age, and when she died, in 1803, she must have seen six successive Earls of Suffolk, and may have known four more, so quick were successions to that title.—ED.]

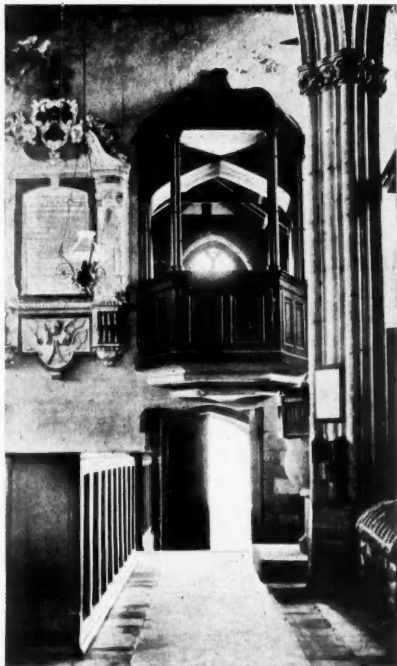
A COAL BLACK VIPER TO THE EDITOR

SIR,—I send you a photograph of a coal black viper which recently came into my possession, having been sent to me from Sutherlandshire, where this, our only poisonous snake, is not uncommon. Its captor, Mr. J. MacNichol, tells me that, though he has seen dark specimens before, it is the only truly black one he has met with in a long experience. Bell in his *British Reptiles* (1869) describes a "black viper," but says its jaw and throat were dirty white, and that the characteristic markings were visible in particular lights. My adder is inky black and without any trace of pattern, the zig-zag marking down the back being quite lost. Melanistic varieties are occasionally met with in most species of birds, beasts and reptiles, but a perfectly black viper is a rarity.—FRANCES PITT.

SELWORTHY CHURCH

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you this photograph of Selworthy Church, near Minehead, as it combines several noteworthy features. The squire's pew over the south porch is unique, being in the place



THE SQUIRE'S PEW

usually taken by the parvise. The woodwork appears to be Jacobean, so perhaps the parvise was appropriated and converted into a pew, like a private box, in the seventeenth century. The mouldings of the arcade piers should be noticed, as they are exceptionally slender and graceful. Behind the one in the photograph, the Norman font can be seen, and part of the interesting carved oak cover. In the foreground on the right is an ancient "Peter's pence" chest.—E. M. BOOTY.

"CUCKOOS WINTERING IN GREAT BRITAIN"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—During the third week in November, while walking in a wood, I saw a young cuckoo. It was perched upon a bough near the top of a hawthorn. I am aware that lingerers are reported from time to time; but this is the first example I have actually come across towards the end of November in the North Midland county where I live.

An acquaintance, who spends many hours in the vicinity of the wood, informed me that this particular bird had frequented the spot



PRECIOUS AMONG VIPERS

for the last four or five days previous to my seeing it. He expressed the opinion that, at dusk, it retired into the depths of a pile of faggots and brushwood collected by woodmen. He stated, too, that he had seen it coming from this shelter in the early hours of the morning. My informant thought that the bird was a young sparrow-hawk, and when I told him that it was an immature cuckoo he was sceptical. However, I have had first-hand experience of wild bird life for nearly thirty years, and surely it is time that I could distinguish a cuckoo from a hawk, particularly at close quarters!

As to the bird's identity, there can remain no doubt. Early in December my acquaintance came across the young cuckoo's dead body, which lay in the middle of a path quite near to the pile of faggots and brushwood. He brought it to me to look at. Judged by its condition, this belated bird had died from starvation. Examination of the stomach revealed nothing more than the remains of three very small beetles and a hairy caterpillar.—CLIFFORD W. GREATORIX.

TURKEYS ON THE MARCH

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I wonder whether any of your readers, acquainted with undeveloped countries, have ever seen large flocks of turkeys and geese being herded over long distances.

The turkeys and geese reared by the thousand in the eastern counties of England during the eighteenth century were many of them herded the whole way to London. In the year 1740 the Duke of Queensberry and Lord Orford actually arranged a race between rival flocks of turkeys and geese, from Norwich to London. The stakes were £1,000 a side. Lord Orford, who backed the geese, was the winner, for the geese reached London two days before the turkeys. The geese had travelled long hours while the turkeys had refused to dispense with any portion of their nightly roost!

Bewick notices the custom of driving turkeys and geese long distances. Of turkeys he writes, "Great numbers are bred in Norfolk, Suffolk and other counties whence they are driven to the London markets in flocks of several hundreds. The drivers manage them with facility, by means of a bit of red rag tied to a long rod, which from the antipathy these birds bear to that colour, effectually drives them forward." Of geese the same writer remarked that they walked "eight or ten miles in a day, from three in the morning till nine at night: those which become fatigued are fed with oats, and the rest with barley." In 1783, apparently a drove of about nine thousand geese passed through Chelmsford on the way from Suffolk to London. We are not told the number of gozzards in charge of this exceptionally large flock, but in Lincolnshire one thousand birds appear to have been the usual number for one man. A good gozzard was said to know every individual bird in his charge.—J. D. U. W.

A DABCHICK IN A BASIN

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—A friend of mine was walking on December 16th by the Wallop Brook (which is now lower than it has ever been known before at this time of the year) when she saw a dabchick dive, swim quite strongly under the water, and come to the surface beneath the bank where she was standing; the bird floated there quite contentedly, and made no attempt to escape as my friend leaned down to take it in her hands. The dabchick seemed quite healthy, but my friend, thinking it might be chilled or starving, took the bird up to the house and placed it in a basin of warm water.

Master Dive Dapper quietly floated on the surface, buoyant as a toy celluloid duck,

and made no objections whatever to being stroked by an admiring crowd. But any familiarity with the beak of the bird was checked by a gentle peck. I made a careful examination, but could find no sign of any injury, and the physical condition was quite good. In case the dabchick might be hungry, some raw fish was produced and offered to the bird; but the food was treated with disdain. Then gentle persuasion was tried, and I held the dabchick to open its beak while some morsels were pushed into the gape. This action seemed to stir up the indignation of Master Dapper, and immediately the bird was put back in the basin it dived and swam round and round beneath the surface

of the water; finding no outlet the bird came to the top and fluttered out of the basin on to the floor. Watching the dabchick swimming under water, I was very interested to observe the powerful strokes of the conveniently lobed feet, and I was impressed by the extraordinary compression of the feet during the forward movement. The bird made no use of the wings for propulsion, although many ornithologists assert that the wings are always used when swimming under the surface.

As the dabchick seemed quite revived it was returned to the brook.

I am puzzled to understand the reason for the dabchick's tame behaviour, and I wonder if the bird could have been partially stunned by coming up to the surface of the brook under one of the sheets of ice which now fringe the bank—the Wallop Brook has not previously in the memory of the present inhabitants, ever been frozen to such an extent. The dabchick had probably never dived under ice before, and would not expect the apparently clear surface to be impenetrable. I noticed that, when in the basin, it did not recognise the white china sides as being solid, and the bird repeatedly banged its head in an attempt to pass through them.

But if the dabchick had been partially stunned, as suggested, it showed no signs of such injury to the brain—it had a clear eye, moved normally, seemed quite contented, and was not at all dazed.

Can any of your readers suggest an explanation?—MIDDLE WALLOP.

NOT A FIGURE OF SPEECH

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The old saying as to keeping your money in a stocking was no figure of speech, but represented a matter of fact. Here is one of the old long stockings made for the purpose, of a kind of pigskin. It was worn inside its owner's trouser leg, attached to the braces.—DONALD F. MERRETT.



A STOCKING FOR MONEY



HAREMERE, ETCHINGHAM, SUSSEX

THE ESTATE MARKET

EFFICACY OF AUCTIONS

THREE out of every four properties that have come under the hammer of Messrs. Constable and Maude this year have changed hands at the auction, and with one or two exceptions most of the property privately offered had been speedily disposed of. The firm's sales have included four blocks of flats in St. John's Wood, about 440 separate tenancies; forty-six small flats in Belsize Park; Stagenhoe Park, 572 acres, in Hertfordshire; and Wimpole Hall, 3,520 acres, in Cambridgeshire. These transactions were all with clients of Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. Wimpole Hall sale was notable for the announcement that Lord Clifden, the vendor, had been able to dispose of the estate subject to his right to remain in occupation. Messrs. Constable and Maude's other sales, purchases and lettings of residential property in the country, town houses, and business premises and sites, through their head office and their Shrewsbury and Stow-on-the-Wold offices, make up a long list, and they have just opened an office to deal on the spot with lettings of Cambridge Mansions, Edgware Road, and neighbouring properties. Their name has been prominent in connection with joint-stock companies that have been formed during the year for dealing with London property.

An Essex estate, Lower Park, Dedham, 40 acres, is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, at the low price of £6,250. The old-fashioned residence is near the banks of the Stour. The grounds have a choice collection of coniferous and ornamental flowering trees and shrubs.

Burghley Hall, Wimbledon, a residence in the Tudor style, is to be offered by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley at Hanover Square on January 25th. The house has a music room 45ft. by 23ft. The grounds of 2 acres contain fine old oak.

A HOPEFUL OUTLOOK

INVESTMENT buying has dominated the market this year. It has extended far beyond the usual avenues of urban buying into the highways and by-ways of places far from the madding crowd. Wherever a reasonable prospect of 5 per cent. or a trifle over could be seen, purchase money has been ready. Owners have not been at all eager to sell, for what could they do with the proceeds to better advantage than put them into real estate again, and why not leave well alone?

The position is stated with their usual clarity and authority by Messrs. Bidwell and Sons, the Cambridge agents, who administer a vast area and some of the principal landed estates in the country. This firm, established over 100 years, has numbered among its heads two Past-Presidents of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution—the present senior partner, Mr. John E. Bidwell, and his father, the late Mr. Charles Bidwell. The other Cambridge partner is Captain Norman J. Hodgkinson, with Mr. H. W. Dean, Mr. H. E. Bush at their Ely office, and Mr. F. G. Norton-Fagge at the Ipswich office.

One of the chief transactions effected by the firm during the year was in relation to the purchase by Trinity College, Cambridge, of

4,000 acres of agricultural land in Suffolk, the significance of which can hardly be over-estimated. In their annual report, which has always been marked by outspoken description of tendency, whether good or otherwise, Messrs. Bidwell and Sons say: "The year may fairly be described as one of renewed activity after years described consecutively in this annual review as years of depression, stagnation, uncertainty, expectancy, and last year opportunity. We are more convinced than ever that we were right in the statement we made last year that the people who were buying land then would be the rich men of 1935."

"There are undoubtedly more buyers than sellers of the best class of land to-day, and, although very great discrimination is necessary in making a purchase, the chief difficulty of would-be investors in land has been to find willing sellers of really good well-let agricultural properties. Not a great deal of land has come on the open market, and the majority of large and small estates which have been offered in public have been under forced sales. A great deal of land has, however, changed hands by private treaty, although, in the majority of these cases also, the owner has been forced to realise. Good prices can be got for really good property, but the market for farms for occupation remains weak."

"There is a tendency for certain corporate bodies and wealthy landowners to farm in hand voluntarily, rather than let their farms at low rents, and, although this involves a far bolder and more speculative policy than investment in land let to tenants, it has, to commend it, that the reward of boldness is likely to be great when the long-awaited revival in agriculture takes place, not, perhaps, so much in the annual profits to be made, as in the capital appreciation on the realisation of farming stock, both live and dead, when the time comes for the landowner to let the farms at rents far higher than are now obtainable. We do not say that we necessarily advocate such a policy, which must of necessity prove a highly speculative venture, but it is obvious that a farmer with capital at his disposal has unrivalled opportunities, under present conditions, for acting as a dealer with satisfactory results. We are further of opinion that it will probably be many years before a farmer can enter on a farm and stock it more cheaply than he can to-day."

HOLMAN HUNT'S HOUSE AS FLATS

HOLMAN HUNT, O.M., R.A., lived at No. 18, Melbury Road, "that quiet abode of artists," in Kensington. Those who value associations with bygone literary men may like to think also of how Thackeray used to spend much of his time at the house. The house, having been transformed into three or four separate self-contained sets of rooms, now produces a rental of £875 a year. The Dowager Lady Ilchester is the ground owner, and the head lease is for thirty-three years unexpired at a ground rent of £70 a year. Since the auction Messrs. Curtis and Henson have sold Nos 18 and 18A, Melbury Road. The conversion of the house into its present type of accommodation was effected under the

supervision of Messrs. Wimperis, Simpson and Guthrie, F.F.R.I.B.A.

Messrs. Hampton and Sons have sold The Lawn, Eastbourne, a Georgian house and 3½ acres, with Mr. Edgar Horn, for £8,800; also Ashe Park, Basingstoke, 1,600 acres; Ades, Chailey, 260 acres; Frimley Hall, Camberley, 66 acres; Redlynch Park, Bruton; Bray Wick, Maidenhead, 65 acres; Coleby Hall, Lincoln, 34 acres; freehold building land at Selsey, 16 acres; and a long list of Mayfair, Hampstead, Wimbledon and other residences.

Mr. A. T. Underwood announces the sale of Crossways, Worth; Faringay, Crawley Down; and an old Georgian residence, Rowlescroft, Ditchling, at the foot of the South Downs, the last-named with Messrs. J. R. Thornton and Co. Mr. Paxton Watson has asked Mr. Underwood to sell Barn Wood, Pound Hill, Worth, and 3 acres, overlooking Balcombe Forest and the Surrey hills.

Jermyns, Romsey, 263 acres, has been sold by Messrs. Osborn and Mercer, in conjunction with Messrs. James Harris and Son. Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 were disposed of at the auction, and Lots 1 and 2, comprising the residence and park, and home farm, have just been sold privately, to a client of Messrs. Bruton Knowles and Co.

Forge Wood, the house and 3 acres at Worth, on the road to Balcombe Forest, has been sold by Mr. A. T. Underwood.

Messrs. George Tillope and Sons have sold No. 78, Cadogan Place, a modernised house; and No. 44, Lowndes Street.

Messrs. Giddys, through their Maidenhead office, have sold Gays House, Holyport, an old Queen Anne house, with 66 acres; Hill Farmhouse, Shurlock Row, a small Early Georgian house with a Tudor wing, and 4 acres; The Old Farmhouse, Cookham, probably Elizabethan, Windyridge, Maidenhead Thicket, a modern house; The Forest House, Winkfield; Shrublands, Windlesham; and Little Orchard, Cox Green. Gays House was sold in conjunction with Messrs. John D. Wood and Co.

Haremere, Etchingham the beautiful stone house dating from 1616 (illustrated to-day), is offered, with 40 acres, by Messrs. Collins and Collins.

Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock (St. James's Place) have sold Ashcroft House, Kingscote, Tetbury, 100 acres. Ten years ago they sold it to the present vendor.

Messrs. Howkins and Sons have sold Dunsmore Home Farm, three miles from Rugby. For many years the home of the well known Dunsmore Shire Stud, this property has lately been converted to a dairy farm. It includes a pleasantly situated house and buildings, and 175 acres.

Murrayton, Gatehouse of Fleet, Kirkcudbright, the house and 7,500 acres, is for sale by Messrs. Walker, Fraser and Steele. The estate yields up to 650 grouse, besides black-game, woodcock, partridges, snipe, pheasants, and from 1,000 to 1,500 rabbits. There is fishing in the Fleet and Lochs Grannoch and Fleet. Over 1,000 trout were caught in 1933.

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NEW CARS TESTED.—LXXXV: THE LONG 20 h.p. ARMSTRONG SIDDELEY

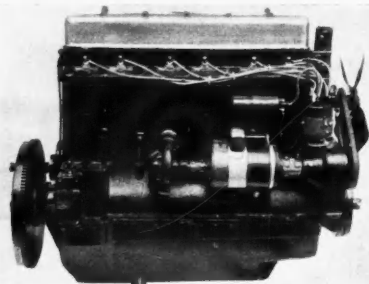
THERE is no doubt that there is a great charm in driving or being driven in a large car. The big engine never has to be pressed, while the roomy coachwork allows one full room to stretch one's limbs without coming into contact with one's neighbours. In addition, as far as the actual driver is concerned, he will always feel fresher at the end of a long run after handling a large car than he would in a small one, even if the performance put up is exactly the same. The driver of the large car always has something in hand and is never working his engine at its maximum, with the result that, on an average, it will go for very much longer periods without attention.

It is seldom that one comes across a car that is absolutely wedded to its coachwork, so much a complete unit in which body and chassis make such an ideal partnership as in the Long Twenty Armstrong Siddeley. This car has a longer wheelbase than the 20 h.p. saloon, and can be obtained either with a limousine or landaulette body.

I came to the conclusion after a recent trial that I knew of no car which was so typically British, both in conception and design, as this vehicle. Everything about it is sturdy and well designed, while one gets the impression that infinite care has been taken not only in the construction but also in the inspection. Nothing has been left to chance or just used because it was good enough.

As I have stated, the chassis and the body make a perfect unit. The long wheelbase allows plenty of room, while the engine is large enough to ensure quietness, and allows it to perform its duties with the minimum of effort. The coachwork, besides being spacious, is really well constructed and designed; while, lastly, the car has a dignified but not too heavy appearance in keeping with its performance.

This car is not, of course, designed for high speeds. Comfort and quietness are the first considerations, combined with durability. It is, of course, fitted with the Wilson type of self-changing pre-selective gear box, which the firm of Armstrong Siddeley pioneered, so that on a long run really good averages can be obtained with the minimum of noise and discomfort to the passengers. When required, the acceleration is quite brisk, as, starting on second, I found it possible to reach 50 m.p.h. from a standing start in just over 21secs., going as high as third; while, going into top, 0 to 60 m.p.h. required 29secs. The maximum speed of the car is well over 70 m.p.h. and a cruising speed of 55 to 60 m.p.h. can be maintained indefinitely without the engine making its presence felt. The pre-selective gear box is a great advantage on a car of this type, as with it the driver can use his gears so as to get the maximum



Six cylinders.

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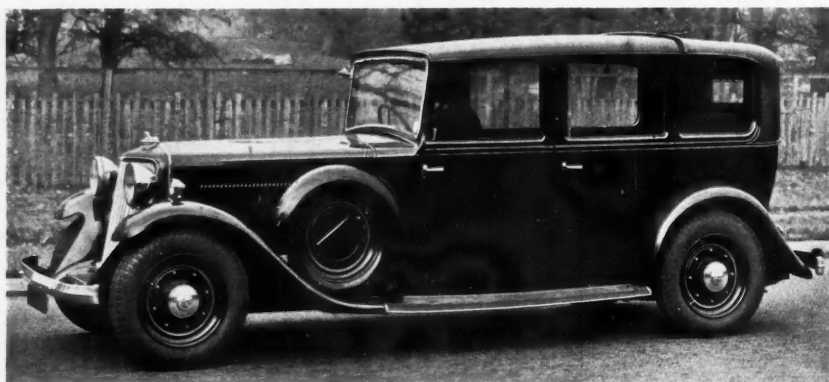
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The rear compartment with the occasional seats raised, showing how three can be seated abreast



THE LONG TWENTY ARMSTRONG SIDDELEY LANDAULETTE

performance from the engine without the passengers being aware of it or in any way inconvenienced, all ratios being silent. I spent some time being driven sitting in the back, and found it really comfortable and silent. The springing is an excellent compromise, being sufficiently flexible to give the passenger the idea he is floating over the road, while at the same time it is not so soft as to render the control of the car difficult.

The four-wheel brakes are assisted by a servo action and are controlled both by the foot pedal and the hand lever which is situated on the off side of the car, but not so as to interfere with the entrance through the off-side door. They are powerful but at the same time very smooth in action, so that the passengers do not get any feeling of discomfort even when the car is pulled up really quickly.

This car is, of course, primarily designed to be chauffeur-driven, so that the front seat is rather more upright than in the case of owner-driven cars; but at the same time it is very comfortable, and any enthusiastic owner who likes to drive himself from time to time will not be in the least inconvenienced.

The steering is also an exceptionally pleasant feature and is beautifully light and positive for a car of this size. It is of the worm and nut type. The springs themselves are semi-elliptics, and at the rear they are underslung. They are fitted with gaiters and are damped by Luvax shock absorbers.

From the technical point of view the car is of clean and neat design. The six cylinder engine has overhead valves operated by push rods. A Claudel Hobson down-draught carburettor is used and is fitted with an air cleaner; while the advance and retard of the coil ignition is automatically controlled by an ingenious device which is operated through the degree of vacuum in the induction pipe. A 12-gallon tank at the rear carries the petrol, which is fed to the engine by a pump.

COACHWORK

The long chassis has a wheelbase of 10ft. 11½ins. and a track of 4ft. 8ins. The luxurious coachwork is beautifully finished and the equipment very complete. There is a Triplex glass division behind the driver.

An ingenious feature is provided by the folding occasional seats in the rear compartment. These are two and face forwards, but they are so designed that they join together in the middle, so that it is possible to seat three people abreast if necessary, making the vehicle a genuine seven-seater. The doors are wide and there is plenty of head room, while the whole body gives an idea of spaciousness without being clumsy.



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THE PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM



INTERIOR OF THE GRAND HALL

IN the northern part of Gloucestershire, midway between the county's eastern and western boundaries, lies the exceedingly well planned town of Cheltenham, situated on a gentle slope which looks westward and south-westward across the Vale of Severn and receives the full benefit of the soft, health-giving breezes that sweep up the Bristol Channel. On the north-east, east and south-east the Cotswold Hills raise a rampart about it and ward off the harsh winds of winter and spring. The configuration of the land and the predominance of warm westerly winds have given to Cheltenham one of the most sheltered inland climates in the British Isles, and as it rejoices in more hours of bright sunshine than fall to the lot of many other health and pleasure resorts, and as there is a marked absence of fog—the average mean temperature of the winter months is 41.8° Fahr.—the winter is still the social season. For those who prefer a more tonic air there is the breezy upland of Cleve Hill, whereon is the golf club described below. Although, nowadays, the town is, perhaps, better known as a residential and educational centre, it should be remembered that since the middle of the eighteenth century it has been famous for its medicinal waters, which closely resemble those of Carlsbad and Marienbad, to give them their pre-War names, in Czecho-Slovakia. The waters fall into four groups—the Fieldholme or Twin Salt Saline, the Lansdown, the Pittville, and the Chadnor Salines. The first of these was discovered about 200 years ago, and under the name "Chel-spa" is sold in bottles by chemists throughout the country. The Corporation of the town has provided a very complete series of all the modern types of medical baths, housed in luxuriously equipped buildings and administered by properly qualified attendants. They include Vichy, Aix, Scotch and

Plombières Douches, aeration, whirlpool, contrast, and brine baths.

The discovery of the Cheltenham waters coincided with a particularly dignified period of architecture, in a leisurely and cultured age when the charm of natural scenery and spacious, sunny streets was beginning to be realised. The oldest of its many spas is the Montpellier with its Colonnade and Rotunda designed by Papworth, an architect who found his great opportunity in Cheltenham. By far the most important, architecturally speaking, of the old Pump Rooms is the Pittville Spa, modelled on the design of a small Greek temple which used to stand on the bank of the Ilissus at Athens. Together with the Great Rotunda it dates from the Regency period. The only building which links modern Cheltenham with the original village is the parish church, which, originally built in the twelfth century, was reconstructed and enlarged in the fourteenth century and is a striking building containing a glorious rose window. Apart from its architectural charm, Cheltenham owes much to its magnificent tree-lined streets and to its public parks, e.g., the Montpellier Gardens, the Winter Garden, Pittville Park and, the latest addition, Sandford Park, where the little River Chelt has been turned into a feature of great charm by a series of rocky waterfalls. Cheltenham is a wonderful centre for inspecting some of the most gracious scenery and most beautiful buildings in the country. Within easy

reach by car are the stately cathedrals of Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford and Christ Church, Oxford; while equally accessible are the Malvern Hills, the Shakespeare country, the Wye Valley, and many a picturesque hamlet, grey Cotswold farm and old-world manor house.

TRAVEL NOTES

CHELTENHAM is well served by the Great Western Railway, which links it up with London, the south-western counties, the West of England, and the Shakespeare country. Between Cheltenham and London there is a choice of two routes, and several of the trains complete the journey in two and a half hours. Over a portion of its run the 2.30 p.m. from Cheltenham to Paddington is the fastest train in the world.

During the winter there is, in addition to the Municipal Orchestra, a succession of county concerts at which celebrities in the musical world appear. There are also many dances and social functions, which include the Hunt Ball, the Regimental Ball, the Cotswold Farmers' and the Hospital Balls, while a special feature is made of the Municipal Dance Teas.

Cheltenham is a well known hunting centre, and the local pack of foxhounds, the Cotswold, with its kennels at Andoversford, just outside the town, hunts regularly throughout the season three or four days a week. The town is also a convenient centre for: meets of the North Cotswold, the Vale of White Horse, the Duke of Beaufort's, the Berkeley, the Croome and the Ledbury Hunts.

The Cheltenham racecourse annually gains in popularity, and the National Hunt Steeplechase is second only in importance to the Grand National.

There are two excellent golf courses, both of eighteen holes. The one is on the breezy plateau of Cleve Hill, 1,000ft. above sea level. The course is connected with the centre of the town by a first-class service of motor buses; there are two commodious club-houses, and good accommodation in hotels adjoining the course. On the other side of the town is the Lilley Brook Golf Club, with nine holes on the level and nine on the shoulder of Hartley Hill. Here, too, is a well appointed club-house.



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Special Winter Terms
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SOLUTION TO No. 204

The clues for this appeared in December 23rd issue.

M	I	N	C	E	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
I	O	N	R	A	E	O							
S	I	G	N	O	R	A	I	T	A	L	I	A	N
T	G	W	C	S	L	S	G						
L	O	I	N	S	K	E	I	N	E	T	A	S	
E	N	F	E	N	S	E							
T	A	S	T	I	E	R	S	I	L	E	N	C	E
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E	L	D	E	R	L	Y	B	E	D	W	A	R	D
I	Y	U	R	S	C	E							
C	O	L	D	C	L	E	A	R	P	E	A	R	
O	E	S	E	N	H	T	D						
N	O	M	I	N	A	L	P	I	C	C	O	L	O
I	M	A	O	I	A	U	W						
C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	B	A	S	I	N

ACROSS.

1. It would be difficult to find its start in this London street
6. Often seen in the air during the War
9. It should be unnecessary to put these vegetables on ice
10. Every forger uses one
11. Dogs
12. A Breton watering place
13. The heart of a heart
14. No key is required for these locks
17. A foot which is two long
19. 20 down work
22. You are sure to encounter many of these at a City banquet
24. Cadmus' daughter who rode home on a dolphin
25. Everest may be said to do this to the rest of the Himalayas
26. Many an opera is, but not always intentionally
29. A direction to the whole band
30. Many a play has been spoiled by being this
31. Material
32. Guido must have known of this substance

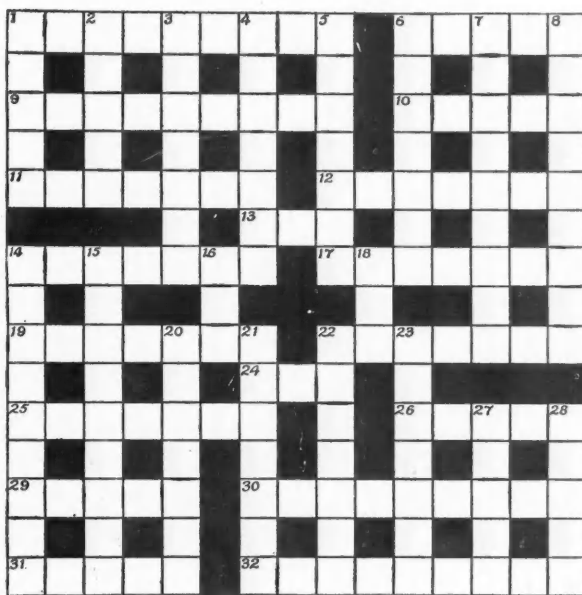
DOWN.

1. Cheat
2. Britannia, for example
3. This kind of man would still be what he is if a letter were prefixed to him
4. Daggers from Malaya
5. Elephants
6. Swank
7. Well known Paris building but not used for most of it as you might think
8. Not men from East Europe, but employed in the piano trade
14. A Roland for an Oliver put shortly
15. "Tame Ellen" (anagr.)
16. An Old Testament priest
18. This fane is anything but sacred
20. "I have opened wide my —"
21. Frequently accompany the spirits
22. What liquid may do in winter
23. What the boxing referee means when he says break away
27. A sacred composition
28. The nucleus of a battalion

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 205

A prize of books of the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 205, COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than **first post on the morning of Tuesday, January 2nd, 1934.**

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 205



Name.....

Address.....

IN THE GARDEN

HELONIAS BULLATA is still an uncommon object in our gardens despite the fact that it came from North America so long ago as 1758. This is a liliaceous plant making a tufty growth of smooth pale green leaves which might be mistaken for those of a dodecatheon. In April it puts up a number of stout and erect flowering stems of about a foot. Each of these terminates in a closely packed inflorescence the size and shape of a walnut and of a soft flesh pink. These blossoms are decidedly attractive, but they are especially welcome about the margins of water where flowering plants are none too abundant in spring. With *Primula involucrata*, the yellow-spathed *lysichiton* and *calthas*, the gentle-toned rosy knobs are particularly happy. *H. bullata* is quite hardy and fond of moisture, but the drainage should be free. It may be propagated by division like a *primula*. J.

SEED CATALOGUES

THE annual vegetable and flower seed catalogues descend in a shower about this time, a reminder of the turn of the year and the approach of the seed-sowing season; and among the first to reach us are those from Messrs. Suttons of Reading and Messrs. Carters of Raynes Park. The new edition of Messrs. Suttons' *Amateur Guide* fully lives up to the high standard of excellence which all gardeners have come to look for in this invaluable publication, which is much more than a mere seed catalogue. It is a comprehensive guide to the requirements of a garden that no amateur or professional should neglect to have and to keep on a convenient shelf for reference throughout the year. Descriptive lists of flower and vegetable seeds occupy the bulk of the manual, but besides these there are sections devoted to lawns and sports grounds, with hints on the making of a lawn and treatment of turf, and information on turf dressings and fertilisers, garden requisites, including tools, spraying machines and washes, horticultural fertilisers, and perennial plants, including hardy border subjects, climbers, and bulbs and corms for spring planting. In the list of sweet peas, which occupies four and a half pages and gives some idea of the choice available nowadays, three new varieties of the firm's own raising are offered for the first time. These are Dainty, with large blooms of pure white, heavily flushed with pale pink, a brilliant orange scarlet variety called Flaming Torch; and Mahogany, whose name aptly describes its colouring. Twenty other novelties from other raisers are also offered. To the two fine Ursinias, anethoides and pulchra, Messrs. Suttons have now added a third in a dwarf variety not more than about four inches high, with flowers of rich orange, named U. pygmaea Suttons' Brilliance, which promises to be a valuable acquisition to the group. Their new pansy-flowered strain of schizanthus, which was introduced last year, is also noteworthy as are one or two newcomers to the ranks of greenhouse primulas, P. malacoides and P. stellata; a new annual rudbeckia called Autumn Glow; Eschscholtzia Red Chief; Godetia Pelargonium; and two new wallflowers. The vegetable section is large and comprehensive, and the list of varieties, each described with cultural details, is supplemented with a table of sowing times of the different kinds so as to ensure a supply of vegetables all the year round. For the beginner or the small gardener collections of vegetable seeds are offered; and the same applies to flower seeds, which are made up for different purposes. For example, collections are available for special colour schemes, for cutting, for the rock garden, for paved walks, flowers for bees, for the greenhouse, and so on. As usual, the guide is well printed and produced, and generously illustrated with excellent photographs and several colour plates.

The *Blue Book of Gardening*, published by Messrs. Carters Tested Seeds of Raynes Park, S.W.20, has already gained an established reputation among gardeners, and the fourth edition, which has just been issued for 1934, is sure of a welcome from all those who have found the previous



AN UNCOMMON WATERSIDE PLANT, *HELONIAS BULLATA*

With dense heads of soft flesh pink flowers

editions invaluable for reference purposes, as well as for the making out of the annual order for flower and vegetable seeds. It is an excellent gardening guide, well printed and produced and generously illustrated, and brings within the compass of a single volume all the information on flower and vegetable seeds, together with an exhaustive descriptive list of varieties that the ordinary gardener is ever likely to want, as well as sections devoted to lawns and their renovation and treatment, fertilisers, tools, and all other items of garden equipment, such as insecticides and fungicides. The present edition follows the same lines as its predecessors, and gives, after the lists of flower and vegetable seeds and the section on tools, a monthly diary of the principal garden operations to be carried out. Several new varieties are offered this year, and among them two new sweet peas—Sunrise, of a glowing cerise; and Ethereal, of a pale peach pink—raised by Messrs. Carters at their trial grounds at Raynes Park, are outstanding. In the 1932 trials of new sweet peas conducted by the National Sweet Pea Society and the Scottish Sweet Pea Society these newcomers showed up to advantage, and their merits are reflected in the fact that the former received the gold medal of the National Society and the latter the gold medal of the Scottish Society, which is sufficient testimony to their distinction and value for garden decoration. Besides these, many other new sweet peas are listed, among which the new white Gigantic, Grand National, Red Boy, Lady Loch, Mystic and Dandy have claims to recognition. Other flower seed novelties include a fine new crimson antirrhinum called Welcome; Scabious Blue Cockade, with large flowers of deep azure blue; and a brilliant crimson scarlet Clarkia named Glorious. Many uncommon vegetables are offered in the sixty-four page section dealing with vegetables, and particular note should be made of the excellent tomato called Carters Fruit, which the firm introduced about three years ago and which appears to have met with universal appreciation. It is a most exhaustive seed catalogue as well as a most useful and practical guide which every gardener will find invaluable. Copies are obtainable from Messrs. Carters at a cost of one shilling, post free.

Those who appreciate good vegetables and who are exercised in their minds as to the varieties that should be chosen should make a point of obtaining a copy of the fourth edition of Messrs. Bunyard's interesting catalogue called *Vegetables for Epicures*. It is a model of what a catalogue should be. The information is neatly arranged and charmingly distilled and, above all, carries conviction. A list of vegetables, carefully compiled from personal knowledge and experience of their merit and behaviour under cultivation and for cooking purposes, where the good has been separated from the bad and merely indifferent kinds, and where no quick sympathy has led the compiler (who is evidently a shrewd judge) to generalise too readily and include too many kinds, it presents the connoisseur with a selection of vegetables that are really worth growing. There is inspiration as well as guidance in its pages, and the hints on cooking blend palatably with the subject and should encourage better practice in the English kitchen. A sane analysis of varieties, it is a list that can be recommended to everyone who has yet to make a decision on their vegetable requirements.

THE MIRROR OF THE MOUNTAINS

OF all the many choice treasures that can find a place in the woodland garden there are few to be prized more than the Japanese *Schizocodon soldanelloides*. Not an easy plant to raise from seed—which should be sown as soon as ripe or in spring, in a compost of leaf mould, peat and loam—there is none more worthy of all the attention that can be lavished on its upbringing, for, once established plants are obtained, there is never much difficulty with it, so long as it has a fairly rich leafy soil, rather on the light side, and a shady situation. If in gardens at home it falls a long way short of its beauty in its native land, it is nevertheless a very lovely plant with its tufts of rounded, leathery-looking, toothed leaves of a dark glossy green which provide such a fine foil to the heavily fringed bells of a clear shell pink flushed with crimson that are carried on slender and graceful stems a few inches high in the early summer. In a situation it likes it will soon make a mat of its beautifully polished foliage a foot or two across, and it is worth all the trouble required to get it safely established, for it is one of the most dainty and charming of all miniature woodlanders. C.



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THE LADIES' FIELD

Some Details of the Sales

THE great winter sale at Marshall and Snelgrove's, Vere Street and Oxford Street, W.1, which commenced last Thursday and will continue until January 27th, comes as a veritable boon after the expenses of Christmas. Dinner gowns, which were formerly 8½ guineas, are marked at £4 10s.; becoming wool day-gowns are reduced from 6 guineas to 45s.; while there are a few magnificently tailored two-piece suits, which were originally 16½ to 18½ guineas and are now 12½ guineas, these having handsome fur collars. There is, besides, a sale of cretonnes and curtains, of blankets, towels, sheets, etc., all of which will tempt the shopper; while children's wear is likewise greatly reduced. The catalogue, sent free on application, gives details.

Probably the biggest and most interesting sale ever held by Harvey Nichols and Co., Limited, Knightsbridge, will commence on January 1st and continue throughout the month. The reason why the sale is of such mammoth proportions is because the stocks of goods must all be cleared before the great re-building programme nears completion on February 1st. The catalogue of such an important bargain opportunity is, naturally, a very special one, and there are no fewer than sixty-four pages, splendidly illustrated, while, for the convenience of shoppers, it is divided into two separate sections, one being entirely devoted to fashions and the other to furnishing. If the would-be shopper has not received one, a card to Harvey Nichols will remedy this omission.

January 1st to January 20th is the date of the annual winter sale at Debenham and Freebody's, Wigmore Street, W.1, and, naturally, their clients are on tiptoe with expectation. One can only quote an item here and there; but, even if one intends to pay an early visit, it is as well to secure the catalogue, which is sent post free on application. A black ring velvet evening coat (an original model) has come down to £20 from 45 guineas; and others are £16, reduced from between 30 and 40 guineas.

It is good news that Kenneth Durward, Limited, Ulster House, Conduit Street, W., are now offering "overcoats," which usually cost from 6 to 12 guineas, from £3. Ten-guinea costumes are obtainable from £4 upwards, fur-trimmed coats from £5, and raincoats from £2. Men are benefiting immensely in this winter sale, many overcoats being priced below cost of production.

Liberty's winter sale will begin on Monday, January 1st, and a host of wonderful bargains are waiting for the shopper at these Regent Street premises. No catalogue will be published, but there will be a quantity of surplus stocks and remnants of their dress and furnishing materials which will be offered at clearance prices. Take, for example, the Persian rugs. No fewer than 1,000—of good quality and fine colours—the approximate size of which is 6ft. by 3ft. 6ins., are reduced to 63s. each and upwards from prices varying from 84s. to 130s.; while immense sacrifices have been made in Persian carpets some of which are reduced to £21 10s. from £39 10s. Then, again, you have cretonnes reduced to 1s. 3d., 1s. 6d., and 1s. 11d. a yard instead of 2s. 6d., 2s. 11d. and 3s. 11d. a yard; stockinette dresses which have been 4 guineas will be 29s. 6d. upwards, not to speak of millinery, dressing gowns, and dress lengths, all reduced.

The suit illustrated, which is made by Tweednit, Ltd., 11, Abbott Road, Bournemouth, and is sold by Marshall and Snelgrove, Limited, Vere Street and Oxford Street, being actually priced at 6 guineas, represents a winter-proof three-piece in Tweednit—a woollen material in warm tweed-like checks. There is a double pleat in front which cunningly conceals a "lightning fastener," while the trimming on the sleeves, collar and pockets is of the Tweednit material, which is brushed to give variety. The string jumper, which is shown in one of the illustrations, is entirely suited to a coat and skirt of this description, and has a very neat and workmanlike appearance.

KATHLEEN M. BARROW.



AN IDEAL SPORTS OR COUNTRY COAT AND SKIRT. (Tweednit, Ltd.)



ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE SUIT SHOWING THE JUMPER

FOR OLDER FOLKS AND YOUNGER FOLKS

THIS is the season of children's parties, and the next few weeks will see the young people with countless engagements, and the elders making their amusement an excuse for a great deal of merriment for themselves. On the whole, children are easy people to entertain; but the hostess who knows that her party is coming as only one of a long series in the engagement lists of most of her guests is apt to have an anxious feeling that she may merely be repeating what someone else has done as well already. The larger matters of the party, whether a conjure, or Christmas tree, dancing or games, are important; but the least detail is important, too, and many children, dancing or playing in a warm room, grow terribly thirsty. Probably, after most children's parties, the small guests, if they spoke their minds, would admit that they had been thirsty, and that the home-made lemonade or similar drinks were all either too sweet or too sour or too strong. The hostess who wishes to give her guests absolutely healthy yet attractive drinks should invest in some of the excellent Apollinaris products; "Presta" sparkling grapefruit, which is both enjoyable and refreshing, and "Presta" lemonade, ginger beer, ginger ale and tonic water, to give variety and suit all tastes. These are excellent suggestions; and then there are the lovely cordials and the non-intoxicating wines for brewing ideal hot drinks to give our guests just before they go home. The party where "Presta" drinks are provided will certainly be a success, and no child will be the worse for them on the morrow. Apollinaris products can be obtained at all good stores and wine merchants'.

CLOTHES FOR THE SPORTSMAN

Perhaps the man who has the keenest eye for excellent tailoring is the sportsman; dress clothes matter very much, the fit of the morning coat is everything, and an

ideal lounge suit is a priceless possession; but these are, on the whole, matters of appearance. In the case of the sportsman—no less interested in appearance—comfort and, to a certain extent, his enjoyment of his chosen sport are a matter of the cut, fit and material of his sporting clothes. The golfer is a particularly susceptible mortal in this direction, and for

him there is a capital opportunity of acquiring perfect comfort and complete satisfaction in the Hammond "Swing Free" jacket, which gives absolute freedom of movement for golfing, shooting or fishing, and perfect protection. It is made in a selection of excellent tweeds, with or without collar, for both men and women. Although it gives such absolute freedom to the arms, it is eminently practical for all sports. At the same time, it is cosy and protects the body, and, being long like a jacket, keeps the back warm. It has useful large pockets for carrying cartridges, pipes, etc., and can, if it is wished, have a game pocket also. In very cold weather it can be worn under a coat like a waistcoat or over a woolly. As regards colour, the purchaser can make his or her own choice, as it can be had in many colours and weights of tweed, with sleeves to match. Messrs. Hammond are, of course, of almost world-wide renown as sporting breeches makers, and here again is a garment which must be perfect in both fit and style, as the hunting man knows only too well. The other side of Messrs. Hammond's business as *mufti* tailors also needs no stressing. Their address is Messrs. Hammond and Co., 465, Oxford Street, W.1, and their telegraphic addresses, "Breeches—London," "Breeches—Paris," or "Breeches—Brussels," give a clue to the wide extent of their business and the high repute in which their wares are held by sportsmen all the Continent over.



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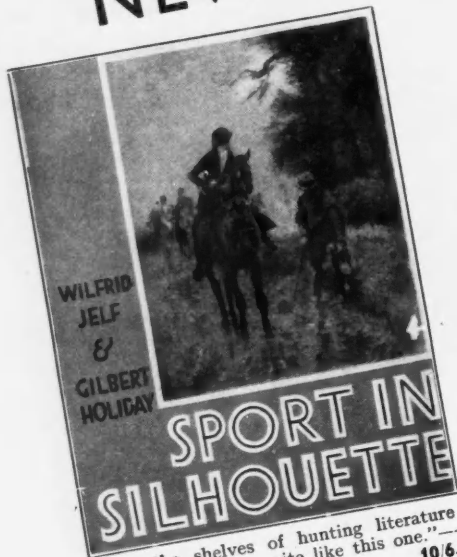
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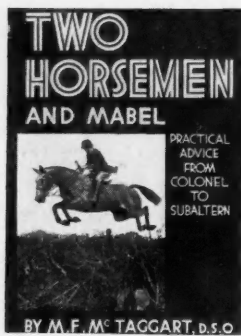
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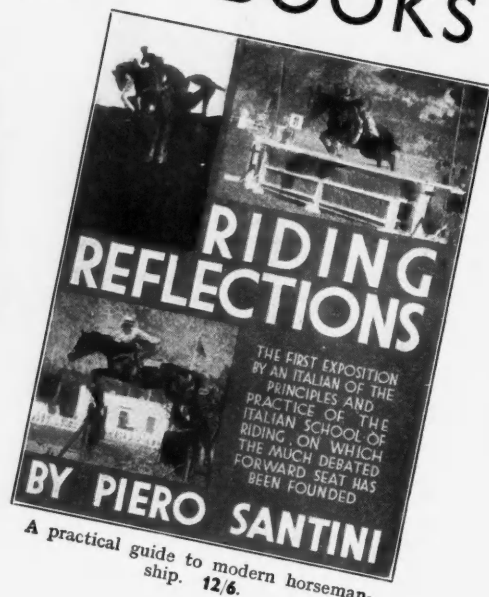
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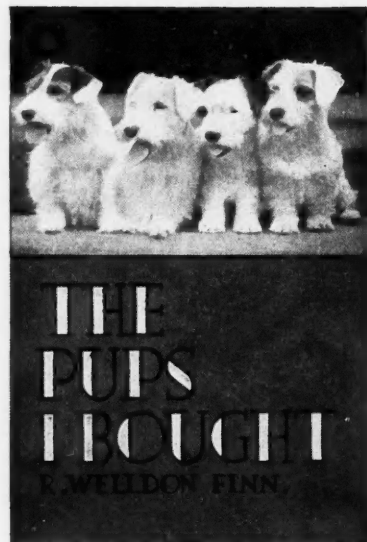
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